

PF604583/V4

REES, MORGAN GORONWY. REES,  
MARGARET EWING

PF604583/V4

SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER

Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date

KV 2/4606

S. 960 Edn2

PF604583/V4



FILE CLOSED

VOL: 4

R E E S, MORGAN GORONWY

REES, MARGARET EWING

## ee Also

**LIMITED CIRCULATION**

Please refer to S. Form 239 before  
sending this file to another Section.

S Form 238D/3m 10.67

S Form 238 2m 8.68

# Y FILE

**THIS FILE WHEN IN TRANSIT  
MUST BE IN A CLOSED  
ENVELOPE, ADDRESSED PER-  
SONALLY TO THE OFFICER.**

HELD by R.5

The file should be passed for P.A. to R.5.

Transit slips in respect of this file should always be forwarded to R.5.

PF 604,583

VOL: 4



Last serial in vol. 3 237a dated: 22.5.56.

Reference P.F. 604,583  
vol. 4.

238.

29.5.56.

Ext. from int. letter from BURGESS ment. Goronwy REES

238b.

51-6987  
V.P.Co.  
(REGIMINT)  
Code 18-75



243.

11.6.56. To SLO Australia  
18.6.56. Press cutting from Daily Express re REES

243a  
243b

244.

19.6.56. Cutting from Daily Express, re REES.

244a.

245.

20.6.56. Copy of correspondence from Home Office re REES.

245a.

246.

20.6.56. From Home Office enclosing papers re REES.  
20.6.56. Temporary suspension of telecheck on REES

246a.  
246b



Reference.....

MINUTE SHEET

247.

21.6.56. Note of D.D.G. conversation with Sir Frank Newsam -  
Home Office - re REES.

247a.

248.

D.G. *Jul 21/6*  
D. *DL. from*

Please see my note at serial 247a.

*G.R. Mitchell.*

D.D.G.  
21.6.56.

G.R. Mitchell.

249.

21.6.56. Press cutting from The Times.

249a

250.

30.6.56. Press cutting from Daily Telegraph

250a

251.

30.6.56. Press cutting from Manchester Guardian.

251a

252.

3.7.56. Int. letter from REES' literary agent.

252a

253.

3.7.56. Press cutting

253a

254.

3.7.56. Press cutting

254a

(1921) Wt22971/4445  
9,52 1,100,000  
JC&SLtd  
Gp736/209  
(REGIMENT)  
CODE 5-34-0

[OVER]



255.

19.7.56. Press cutting from Western Mail

255a

256.

25.7.56. Press cuttings

256a

257.

28.7.56. Press cuttings from Daily Express and Times  
9.8.56. Copy of letter from REES to Skardon.257a  
257b

258.

13.8.56. Suspension of T.C.

258a

259.

14.8.56. To G.P.O. re suspension of letter check.

259a

260.

15.8.56. Telephone check material

260a

17.8.56. Ext. from note by D.1. ment. REES

260b

261.

30.8.56. Note from A.4 re conversation with Mrs. REES.

261a

262.

4.9.56. Copy of letter from Passport Office  
14.9.56. D.1. source report.262z  
262a.

263.

18.10.56. Press cutting from Daily Herald

263a

264.

24.10.56. Ext. from letter from F.O. ment. REES

264a



Reference.....

265.

6.11.56. From Mr. WILLINK, Master of Magdalene re REES

265a

266.

7.11.56. Loose minute to A. from A.1.

266a

267.

7.11.56. Memorandum and comments on 265a

267a

268.

7.11.56. Note for file

268a

269.

D.

Please see at serial 268a a note of our meeting and our proposed reply to Mr. WILLINK. It was agreed that this should be submitted to D.D.G. through L.A.

D.1.  
7.11.56.

*D.H. Whyte*  
D.H. Whyte.

270.

D.D.G.

Please see 268a, referring to the letter at 265a, addressed to Colonel Kearn by the Rt. Hon. Henry WILLINK.

You will see from this letter that Goronwy REES has represented to the President of the College Council, Aberystwyth, and to the Committee of Enquiry into the situation arising at Aberystwyth from the publication of REES's articles in "The People":-

1. That the articles were written and published "with the full knowledge and approval of those persons and



Minute 270 contd.

organisations whose duty it is to protect and preserve the security of this country".

2. That he wrote the articles in order to prevent BURGESS from "doing further damage".
3. That there were good reasons, known to the security authorities, for his not having sought to achieve this aim through these authorities.

None of these assertions is, of course, true.

The Committee of Enquiry, of which WILLINK is Chairman, is due to meet again on 14 November. With this in view, WILLINK has asked urgently for such comments as we can let him have on REES's statements, with regard in particular to his references to contact with the security authorities.

Your approval is now required for the suggestion made at 268a, that Mr. Whyte (D.1) should seek an interview with WILLINK in Cambridge this weekend, and give him the facts as summarised in paragraph 3 of the note. It will be understood that such information as is given by Whyte to WILLINK will be for the personal information of the latter only, and not of course for reproduction in his Committee's report.

It was agreed that A would telephone WILLINK to acknowledge receipt of his letter, and to find out whether he will be available in Cambridge over the weekend.

*[Signature]*  
J. C. Robertson.

D.  
7.11.56.

*Please discuss with hA on the lines agreed between us today. 271*  
D.D.G. 8.11

I agree with D's Minute, excepting that I think sub-paragraph 2 of para.3 of the Note at 268a should be slightly amended, as in ink.

I have spoken to Admiral Thomson this morning and he tells me there is no objection to the Rt. Hon. Henry WILLINK being given all the available information he requires about Admiral Thomson's Committee. The point I think to make is that this Committee does not vouch for the accuracy or otherwise of any texts submitted to them, but they merely delete certain passages from the texts submitted which the representatives of the press have themselves agreed can be deleted, so that there is no element of censorship.

L.A.  
8.11.56.

*B. A. Hill*  
B.A. Hill.

8.11.56.  
8.11.56.

Note for file.  
Loose minute from Col. Cumming

271b.  
271c



Reference PF. 604583  
V. 4

272.

9.11.56.

Note for file.

272a

can  
9.11  
D.D.G. through 4A.  
273

To see 272A, regarding the outcome of our discussion  
with LA, and the course of action which Mr. Whyte will  
now follow.

D.  
9.11.56.

Whyte

274.

12.11.56.

Note on meeting with Mr. WILLINK

274a

275.

pl 15.11  
D. through D.C./CTY and L.A.

Please see at serial 274 a note of my conversation  
with WILLINK. I do not anticipate that any embarrassment to  
us will arise from what I told WILLINK, and I am sure he will  
conform with the conditions on which we gave him information.  
He seemed very appreciative of our readiness to assist him as  
far as we could.

D.1.  
13.11.56.

D.H. Whyte.

276.

A.1.C./Colonel Kearn

You will, no doubt, wish to see WILLINK's letter  
to you at serial 265a and our subsequent dealings with him.  
I do not think we have prejudiced in any way your relation-  
ship with WILLINK.

D.1.  
13.11.56.

D.H. Whyte.

277

pl 15.11  
D.D.G. has updated verbally to D.D.G. and A already.

13.12.56

Whyte



16.11

(Handwritten L.A.)

277

To see 274 A and Min 275. This seems satisfactory.

D.

15.11.56

P.C. Ashton

278

278.

D.

I agree that this is satisfactory. It has been skilfully handled by Mr. Whyte.

G.R. Mitchell

D.D.G.  
16.11.56.

G.R. Mitchell.

279

16.11.56 Note re [redacted] report of conversation with REES

279a

280.

D.

At 279a is a short note of our conversation with [redacted] on 16th November.

2. With regard to paragraph 6, REES made no such conditions. He may have exaggerated in his own mind a statement which he did make, which was to the effect that he was anxious that his manuscript should have as limited a circulation within Government circles as possible and that its contents should not be revealed to outside persons such as BLUNT.

3. With regard to paragraph 7, I assume that the Mr.X. is probably BLUNT. The statement that we were fascinated by REES's revelation is untrue, as there was no such revelation.

4. You will remember that D.D.G. was somewhat sharp with [redacted] when, after the publication of the first article in The People, [redacted] told D.D.G. that he had seen the manuscript some months before. D.D.G. suggested to [redacted] that it would have been helpful if he had informed the Security Service at the time. In this connection, in casual conversation with Maurice Oldfield last Friday night (16th November) he said that he too had been extremely sharp with [redacted] who had only comparatively recently revealed to him an item of information regarding BURGESS.

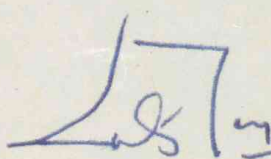
5. The incident....



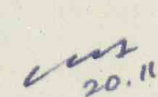
Reference PF.604,583  
Vol.4.Minute 280 (Cont'd)

5. The incident occurred just before the famous Oxford Course at which BURGESS spoke where Oldfield was originally billed to talk about the HISS case but in the end did not do so. [redacted] BURGESS and REES were discussing the HISS case in the Windsor Castle public house, and REES and [redacted] were inclined to believe that there was nothing in it, to which BURGESS replied in effect: "Nonsense. You have never been in the Party like I have, and these are just the manoeuvres which one would expect the Party to make." Oldfield remarked that it was a pity that [redacted] had not reported this at the time rather than so many years later and so long after BURGESS had decamped.

D.1.  
19.11.56

  
Courtenay Young

281.

  
D.D.G.

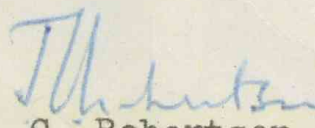
Please see 279a and Minute 280.

I agree with Mr. Young's record of our conversation with [redacted] on 16 November (of which I gave you a short oral account that evening) and with his comments in Minute 280.

Mr. Young and I commented very little at the time on what [redacted] had to say, but we did point out that REES's statement to him, as reported in the second part of paragraph 6 of 279a, was untrue (see in this connexion paragraph 2 of Minute 280).

Paragraph 5 of Minute 280 is disturbing, and leaves me personally with some misgivings, as to whether [redacted] has even now told us [redacted] everything of possible security importance which he knows about REES and BURGESS, from his friendship with the former and acquaintanceship with the latter.

D.  
20.11.56.

  
J. C. Robertson.

282.

6.12.56. Note for file

282a

21.12.56 Telephone intercept

282b



283.

4.1.57 Ext. from int. letter ment. REES

283a

284.

11.2.57. press cutting from Evening Standard

284a

285.

25.2.57. cutting from Daily Express

285a

286.

25.4.56. Note for file  
3.5.57. Cutting from Daily Telegraph re libel action286z  
286a

287.

3.5.57. Cutting from The Times

287a

288.

30.10.57 To G.P.O. cancelling telephone check

288a

289

7.11.57 To GPO cancelling letter check

289a

290.

18.11.57. Cancellation of Home Office Warrant.

290a.



Reference P.F. 604.583.

293

21.2.59 From A4 - loose minute re Skardon/REES meeting

293a

294.

24.2.59 Extract from D.1 note on interview with BLUNT

294a

295.

24.11.59. Note for file.

295a

296.

26.10.60. Copy of intercept letter.

296a.

297.

22.3.61 Ext. from T/C on TAUSSIG

297a

14.6.61. C.R.O. vetting enquiry

297b

298.

D.1./E.McB.

This file was sent to me by D.1/RCS who told me that he only had it incidentally and that you were the expert on the case.

May I please have your advice about our reply to the vetting enquiry? You will see that REES is to do a tour in India on behalf of the British Council. It will probably be of short duration, and in this case we are vetting against possible subversion - not access to classified material

*M.R. Anderson*  
M.R. Anderson.

(31)  
WET/1791/2  
6/54 828,00  
JC&SLtd  
Gp671/34  
(REGIMIN  
CODE 18-

C3A/3505  
22nd June, 1961.



299

~~C.3.A./M.R.A.~~

*Thank you.  
Copy inside file  
Cover way be  
retained if you  
wish.  
Wula/k3A.*

Reference minute 298.

I do not think that we should raise any objection to REES' tour of India on behalf of the British Council.

*E. McBarnet*  
E. McBarnet

D.1.

23 June 1961

300

*25/2/63  
A 25/2*  
~~D.B.G. through D. and D.1.~~

I wish to apply for a Home Office Warrant telephone check on Morgan Goronwy REES of 29, South Terrace, London S.W.7, telephone No. Knightsbridge 6352

I suggest as a short reason:-

Morgan Goronwy REES was a close friend of Guy BURGESS and other members of his circle. It is desired to know his reactions to the disappearance of H. A. R. PHILBY.

*E. McBarnet*  
E. McBarnet

D.1

25th February, 1962.

301

25.2.63. To G.P.O. Mr. Hawkins re H.O.W.

301a.



Reference.....FF.604583.....

302

26.2.63.

Short reason for H.O.W.

302a.

303

27/3  
A.2.A/Commander Aubrey

Will you please cancel the Home Office Warrant  
 T.S/2360 on Morgan Goronwy REES of 29 South  
 Terrace, London, S.W.7., telephone number  
 Knightsbridge 6352.

D.1.

26th March, 1963.

*E. McBarnet*  
 E. McBarnet.

305

25.4.63.

Letter

305a

23.9.63.

Extract from T/C on SOKOLOV-GRANT

305b

23.9.63.

Extract from T/C on SOKOLOV-GRANT

305c

23.9.63.

Extract from T/c on SOKOLOV-GRANT 306.

305d

27.4.64.

Extract from interview with BLUNT

306z

28.5.64.

Note re interview with BLUNDEN

306a

1.5.64.

Ext. from transcript of interview with BLUNT

306za

THIS IS A COPY  
 ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
 IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
 ACT 1958 MARCH 2022



315.

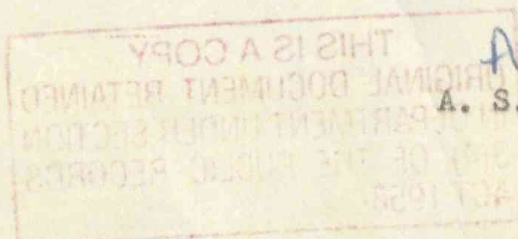
9.7.64. D.1. Note for File.

315a

316.

*D.1. Jean*  
Please see Note at 315a. I do not think there is yet any cause for alarm but, if you agree, I will have one of the N.D.O.'s telephone numbers conveyed to Mrs. REES in order that she can get in touch with us if her husband fails to arrive.

D.1.  
9.7.64.



*A. S. Martin*  
A. S. Martin.



Reference...PF...604.583.....

	317.	
7.64.	Copy of FOOTMAN T/C.	317a.
	318.	
9.7.64.	Copy of FOOTMAN T/C.	318a.
	319.	
10.7.64.	Note re conversations with [redacted] and Street.	319a.
	320.	
10.7.64.	Copy of FOOTMAN T/C.	320a.
	321.	
10.7.64.	Note re conversations with [redacted] and Street.	321a.
	322.	
10.7.64.	Copy of loose minute to N.D.O.	322a.
	323.	
10.7.64.	Extract from T/C on FOOTMAN	323a
	324.	
10.7.64.	Extract from T/C on FOOTMAN	324a
	325.	
13.7.64.	Note for file	325a
	326.	
14.7.64.	Extract from T/C on FOOTMAN	326a
	327.	
22.7.64.	Ext. from T/C on FOOTMAN	327a
31.8.65.	Ext. from transcript of interview with BLUNT	327b



328

22.9.64 Extract from T/C on FOOTMAN

328a

25.9.64. Ext. from D.1/ASM note re interview with [redacted] ment.  
REES.

328b.

329

15.10.64<sup>m</sup> Extract from T/C on FOOTMAN

329a

*21/10/64*  
*20/10*  
D.D.G. through D. and D.1./Investigation

I wish to apply for a Home Office Warrant telephone check on Morgan Goronwy REES at 29 South Terrace, London, S.W.7., telephone number KNightsbridge 6352.

2. Goronwy REES was of course a close friend of BURGESS and PHILBY and belonged to the circle that included BLUNT and David FOOTMAN. There is some reason to suppose that although REES has made certain admissions in the past he may have further information about the activities of the circle and it is proposed to interview him in the fairly near future. It is hoped that he may now be willing to talk more freely or even perhaps to make a full confession as in the case of BLUNT. The telephone check is required in order that we may be informed about his current activities and circle as a preliminary to the interview.

3. I have consulted Mr Hawkins, G.P.O., and Commander Aubrey, A.3.A., who see no apparent difficulty in operating this check.

4. I suggest as a short reason:-

"This man was a close friend of the Russian spies Guy BURGESS, H. A. R., PHILBY and other members of their circle. It is desired to learn something of his current views and activities." *He was formerly the subject of H.O.W. TS/2360*

*investigate*

D.1.  
20.10.64.

*E. McBarnet*  
E. McBarnet

331

21.10.64. To G.P.O. requesting T.C. on REES

331a

332

21.10.64. Short Reason for H.O.W.

**"FILE CLOSED"**



H.O.W. No. TS/2585.

332A

Morgan Goronwy REES

KNightsbridge 6352

This man was a close friend of the Russian spies Guy BURGESS and H.A.R. PHILBY and other members of their circle. It is desired to investigate his current views and activities. He was previously the subject of H.O.W. No. TS/2360.

21st October, 1964.

E. M. FURNIVAL JONES

~~6/15~~  
30/11  
Di/Amo  
28/10



SECRET

331A

PF 604,583/D.1/EMcB

21st October, 1964.

Dear Mr Hawkins,

I am applying for a telephone check on  
KNightsbridge 6352. The subscriber to this number  
is Morgan Goronwy REES of 29 South Terrace, S.W.7.

2. REES was a member of the circle of friends which  
included Guy BURGESS and H.A.R. PHILBY and it is  
believed that he may himself have been involved in their  
activities.

Yours sincerely,



E. McBarnet

N.A. Hawkins, Esq.,  
G.P.O.

---

EMcB/JG

SECRET

✓  
6/1/65  
D1/Amo  
28/10



**SECRET**

S. Form 81/rev. 11.62

(306) Wt.11364/7492. 200M. 1/63. K.C.N. Gp.616/1.

**EXTRACT**

Extract for File No.: PF 604,583 Name: Goronwy REES

Original in File No.:\* PF 604,589 Supp Vol.: 4 Serial: 273a Receipt Date: 15.10.64.

Original from: T/C on FOOTMAN Under Ref.: 4357 Dated: 13.10.64.

Extracted on: 16.10.64. by: JG Section: D.1./Inv.

Extract from T/C on FRO 2712, David FOOTMAN - Suspected former R.I.S. Agent



**SECRET**

NAME: FLANAGAN

Line No.: 4557

Tel. No.: FRO 2712

Date: 13.10.64  
TUESDAY

Responsible Section: D.1.

15. OCT 1964

Outgoing call FLANAGAN to FRE 6807, inviting the DISTANT woman to supper at the Poles' place next door. He thanked her for 'that little thing' and mentioned that he was down at the Oxford for the week-end. They agreed to make it next Monday at 7.30.  
09.33

Incoming call to FLANAGAN from MAURICE OLDFIELD's secretary. She referred to FLANAGAN's call yesterday. MAURICE had been called to a meeting and had asked her to ring him. Would FLANAGAN be available this afternoon, she asked?  
FLANAGAN expected to be in until about 1.30. If he heard nothing from MAURICE he would ring him this afternoon as MAURICE would not be able to get hold of him. FLANAGAN said that it was not as urgent as all that - 'but it would be nice to fix up - somebody he wants to meet, you see, that I'm - I'm going to fix up a meeting for him'.  
11.26

Outgoing call FLANAGAN to WAT 5600, Mr. MAURICE OLDFIELD, who asked whether he had had a good trip. FLANAGAN said he had. He went on to mention-  
F. Anyway, the point immediately on my mind is that we were going to have a quiet little meal with GORONWY and his wife, weren't we?

M. Yes, surely - now, when can we do that?

F. Now, I hear from him that probably - not this week, but next week should be ok, and, what about TUESDAY or WEDNESDAY?

M. Well, lets go now for TUESDAY night.

F. TUESDAY would suit you?

M. Yes, fine.

F. Well, could we meet here at 7.15 or so.

M. 7.15 at your flat - at Collingham Gardens?

F. At Collingham Gardens - and we'll have a quiet little meal just the four of us herein, if that's ok.

M. Very, very good - I'd love too.

F. Excellent. I have lots of news - very much looking forward to seeing you.

M. Thank you very much - I look forward to seeing you - 7.15 on the 20th.

n.t.s.

**SECRET**

/over



- 2 -

Outgoing call to KNI 6352 (REES). Engaged.  
16.10

Incoming call from DAVID REES, to FLANAGAN, thanking him for his card.  
FLANAGAN had not yet received his note sent yesterday. DAVID was having to go to Munich to a conference. He spoke of having moved to a new flat, and suggested postponing their meeting until his return. He invited him to come in to lunch one day - he had one or two books he wished to show him.  
FLANAGAN spoke of being rather tied up at the moment. He suggested DAVID rang him when he came back.  
n.t.s. FLANAGAN mentioned MARGY being out of hospital.

Outgoing call FLANAGAN to KNI 6352. Engaged.  
16.22  
16.25

Outgoing call FLANAGAN to KNI 6352, to GORONWY.  
He referred to their conversation of yesterday and mentioned his talk with MAURICE and the arrangement to come here for dinner on TUESDAY the 20th at 7.15. GORONWY was in agreement and would look forward to it. He mentioned MARGY being very much better - and things were generally much better.  
16.53

Incoming call from BLANCHE to FLANAGAN - wishing to arrange to dine with him before her return. This was fixed for Saturday next - BLANCHE would come here at 7.15.  
~~N.18~~

Calls by Mrs MAITDAND.

L.E.



P.A. in P.F. ~~604,583~~ REES  
Original in P.F. 68,168 vol.5. serial 237b dated 25.9.64  
Reference.....

3286

Extract from Note of interview with [redacted] (1946: Reported  
to be of interest to the Russian Intelligence Service) by D.1./A.S.M  
[redacted] on 15 September, 1964

.....

Goronwy REES

15. Having delivered himself of his opinion of BLUNT I pressed for his opinion of other friends of BURGESS but he professed not to be able to remember any. I suggested REES. This led him to wonder aloud why REES had written the newspaper articles on the BURGESS/MACLEAN affair. He thought that REES must have been motivated by spite and added that, in his opinion, REES' character made him the most likely among BURGESS' friends to have been a spy.

.....

D. 1. / A.S.M. 25.9.64

JP/RE 31.10.68

✓ 17.6



S. Form 81B 8m 10.63

SECRET

## EXTRACT

3280

Extract for File No.: PF 604,583 Name: Goronwy REES

Original in File No.: PF 604,589 Supp Vol.: 4 Serial: 271a Receipt Date: 22.9.64.

Original from: T/C Under Ref.: 4357 Dated: 21.9.64.

Extracted on: 23.9.64. by: JG Section: D.1./Inv.

Extract from T/C on FRO 2712, David FOOTMAN - Suspected former R.I.S. Agent

21.9.64  
MONDAY

Outgoing call FLANAGAN to KNI 8096, to a woman.  
He referred to last night's pleasant party and he  
accepted her invitation to dinner on the 13th October  
when he knew now he would be back from France.  
DISTANT gave personal news and wished him bon voyage.  
17.22

Incoming call from MARGY REES to FLANAGAN.  
She had been unable to get hold of him lately.  
When was he going off, she asked? On Wednesday.  
Would there be a chance of seeing him before his departure?  
FLANAGAN was engaged with the COLLINGHAM SERVICES tonight  
and tomorrow was dining with ANNE and DOUGLAS FELL -  
formerly ANNE COREW (ph) HUNT. MARGY knew who this was.  
FLANAGAN would go, it was agreed, for a cup of tea tomorrow  
at 5.30 and from there would go to the FELLs for dinner  
taking the 49 bus.  
FLANAGAN enquired - 'and, your poor man isn't too bad?'  
MARGY replied - 'Oh no, he's very well, good - fine'.  
FLANAGAN went on to ask about her own health problems  
and said he would find out more from her tomorrow - since  
MARGY appeared not to wish to talk about it.  
18.04

\*If the original is in the file of an individual  
include the name of the file owner

SECRET

6/1/5  
30/11  
03/500  
29/9/64



TOP SECRET

327b

Extract for PF 604,583 - REES

Original at serial 410b in PF 604,582 - BLUNT

Extract from Transcription of Interview between D.1/A.S. Martin  
and Sir Anthony BLUNT on Monday, 31st August, 1964.

B (BLUNT is looking at index of names - BURGESS' correspondence) Geraint -  
has Goronwy got a brother called Geraint?

M I don't know.

B I see someone not myself has written this and I think -

M That he's got a brother -

B That he's got an elder brother called Geraint whom I know nothing about,  
who I've never met and I think is rather remote from Goronwy but I think  
that might be.

.....

M Were they (Con O'NEILL) - I mean how did this arise, do you know? Did  
they associate -

B Oh, goes back a long way. Con O'NEILL was at Oxford, wasn't he? I'm  
pretty certain so it's not a Cambridge - I thought he was a Fellow of All  
Souls. I should have thought that that was certainly a pre-war  
connection, conceivably through Goronwy or through All Souls - Guy had a  
number of friends in All Souls, John FOSTER and people like that, and I  
should have thought that that went back - Con - Guy was certainly a friend  
of Con O'NEILL when he resigned and did he resign over Munich? I think  
he did. He made one spectacular resignation - well not spectacular but  
important, he resigned as a matter of principle and I should have guessed  
because of Munich which would after all put it back to '38 and then came  
back during the war.

.....

B Well BELL would have known that I was pretty well Guy's closest friend  
and I suppose - I mean I wouldn't like to say that if Goronwy had come  
into the club he mightn't have passed it on to him. No, that is my one  
clear recollection but -

TOP SECRET

D111  
all 11/15



S. Form 81/rev. 12.53

**SECRET**

B.943. M.795766/7699. 3/60. 200M. H. E. &amp; S. Gp.862/1

**EXTRACT**

3270

PF. 604,589 (FOOTMAN)  
 Extract for File No.: PF. 604,583 ✓ Name: REES  
 Original in File No.: PF. 604,589 Supp. Vol.: 3 Serial: Receipt Date: 22.7.64  
 Original from: T/C on FOOTMAN Under Ref.: Dated: 17.7.64  
 Extracted on: 30.7.64 by: JAR Section: D.3.

Extract from T/C on FOOTMAN ment. REES

.....

Outgoing call FLANAGAN to HOP 2449, to a woman, who told him that their departure was to be in a week's time. They had let the house, their own house in (MIDWICK Square)? FLANAGAN was ringing to wish them goodbye. The DISTANT asked anxiously - 'What news of your dear friend - MOTHER told me you were so worried about GORONWY REES'. FLANAGAN replied that - 'it turned out to be a complete mare's-nest which is very, very good. Nobody knows where he'd got to - but, he did re-emerge and I think it was just a whole series of muddles, you know'. The DISTANT said that she would have been very worried had it been CHRISTOPHER.

.....

**SECRET**

11/15  
 D3/JM2  
 80/4/64

\*If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner.



**SECRET**

326a

S. Form 81B 8m 10.63

**EXTRACT**

Extract for File No.: PF 604,583 Name: Goronwy REES  
 Original in File No.: PF 604,589 Supp Vol.: 3 Serial: 227a Receipt Date: 14.7.64  
 Original from: T/C on FOOTMAN Under Ref.: 4357 Dated: 13.7.64  
 Extracted on: 15.7.64 by: JG Section: D.1/Inv.

Extract from T/C on FRO 2712, David FOOTMAN - Suspected former R.I.S. Agent

.....

Outgoing call FLANAGAN to KNI 6352, to JENNY REES.

After some initial chatter FLANAGAN said-

F. But, your poor FATHER did turn up?

J. He did indeed, yes, they're not here at the moment, I'm afraid - they've gone out.

F. Good - when you see them - would you say that I and Mr. DAVID REES rang up to find if he has got any plausible story as to what happened to him.

J. Yes.

FLANAGAN spoke aside to 'Mr. DAVID REES' who was butting in. DAVID REES took over the call. JENNY remarked that-'you seem to be having a high time over there'. DAVID mentioned that it was a 'quiet evening'. How was everyone, he asked. Fine, said JENNY who asked whether she should pass on a message. DAVID went on-

D. Just say - very slight sort of concern around , they you know - that's all - better leave it like that'. They said goodbye.

JENNY mentioned also to FLANAGAN earlier that she was going to the S. of France near Cavallaire at the end of the month. CAVALLAIRE is the place where FLANAGAN goes to in the South of France.

22.23

**SECRET**

20/7/64

21/8/64



Reference...PF...604,583.....

32 Sa

NOTE FOR FILE.

Street gave me this morning the following information he had received from Lloyd. Mrs. REES informed Lloyd she had a postcard from REES on Saturday, telling her that he would return on Sunday or Monday.

2. Street said the Foreign Office has also had a cable from the British Embassy in Prague concerning an enquiry made by the Embassy to the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The latter told the Embassy they could find no evidence of REES having entered the country.

3. Later Battersby gave me the following information received from the Resident Clerk. It is now known that REES 'phoned the British Embassy in Prague on Saturday to say he was going to a different hotel. He had also 'phoned his wife from Prague.

*alchun*

R. C. Symonds.

D.1./Inv.  
13.7.64.

CODE 18-76

*by RS*  
*20/7/64*  
*21/5*  
*1977*



324a.

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
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S. Form 81/rev. 11.62

**SECRET**

(306) Wt.11364/7492. 200M. 1/63. K.C.N. Gp.616/1.

**EXTRACT**

Extract for File No.: PF 604,583 Name: Goronwy REES

Original in File No.:\* PF 604,589 Supp Vol.: 3 Serial: 222a Receipt Date: 10.7.64.

Original from: T/C on FOOTMAN Under Ref.: 4357 Dated: 9.7.64.

Extracted on: 13.7.64. by: JG Section: D.1/Inv.

Extract from T/C on FOOTMAN - Suspected former R.I.S. Agentvidual  
er.



**SECRET**

NAME: FLANAGAN

Line No.: 4357

Tel. No.: FRO 2712

Date: 9.7.64  
Thursday

Responsible Section: D.1.

10 JUL 1964

Outgoing call FLANAGAN to MARGY, letting her know that the F.O. had sent a telegram to the EMBASSY asking them to clear up 'all this nonsense'. This, he said, went round about lunch time and should have reached them by now. MARGY mentioned talking to Mr. HUNTER who had told her that he had been unable to make any progress. HUNTER had rung her back after her call to him. They were trying, she said, the Ministry of the Interior and the Immigration authorities. HUNTER had asked her to check here whether he did in fact catch the plane in question. This MARGY had confirmed. MARGY said how grateful she was for the inquiries made on their behalf. FLANAGAN invited her to lunch. MARGY explained that she had 'old MATTIE' coming. FLANAGAN suggested he called on her for tea on his way to the BAILEYS in the afternoon. He would then go on to their flat to await VERNON's return home after which they would go on to RYE by road. FLANAGAN would let her have his telephone number there and would try and produce an official number for her to ring should REES not be on the plane tomorrow evening. MARGY would let him know should she get good news.  
17.54

Incoming call from LEONARD SHAPIRO to FLANAGAN, asking whether there was any news of 'poor MERVYN'. FLANAGAN said that he had seen LEONARD after his long session with MERVYN. Nothing further had happened. Someone - BILL - had promised to send a letter to BUTLER. FLANAGAN reported that something much more disturbing had happened. He went on to tell him the story of GORONWY REES's apparent disappearance. By 10 o'clock tomorrow night they would know whether the whole thing was just so much nonsense. FLANAGAN spoke of the possibility of REES being in a hospital and LEONARD thought likely and quite frightening in view of his health history. He wished to be kept informed about it. FLANAGAN told him he was going away to RYE. He said that he may not be able to go to LEONARD's party on the 15th as he had to cope with a 'poor cousin'. LEONARD spoke of his 'expedition' as being a success - he had morally supported the 'good Germans'. LEONARD again referred to MERVYN. FLANAGAN spoke of this 'front' as now being 'static'. He said that MERVYN was standing up to it all very well.  
19.30 (2)

Outgoing call FLANAGAN to VIC 5172 to VIOLA who then called VERNON. FLANAGAN thanked him for passing on his message so promptly. He wanted their RYE telephone to give to MARGY. It is 2204. /OVER

**SECRET**



- 2 -

VERNON went on to remark-

V. You got a prompt reaction?

F. I got so prompt a reaction and I'm afraid it's  
a little sinister - but, anyhow, be that as it may,  
I'll tell you the story in - tomorrow.

It was agreed FLANAGAN would turn up at their flat soon  
after 6 o'clock tomorrow night.

18.43 (1)

Incoming call - wrong number.  
20.00

L.E.



**CONFIDENTIAL**Loose minute  
Copy on PF. 604,583.

322a

Night Duty Officer

Mr. Street, Foreign Office Security Department, may telephone tonight, or later during the weekend, with a message for Mr. A. S. Martin or myself.

2. Mr. Martin will telephone between 10 and 11 p.m. tonight to enquire if there has been a message and to let you know where he will be during the weekend.

3. I shall be at my home, BERKHAMSTED 1504 during the weekend.

4. If unable to contact either Mr. Martin or myself, please endeavour to contact Miss E. McBarnet.

*RCS*

R. C. Symonds.

D.I./Inv.  
10.7.64.**CONFIDENTIAL***[Handwritten signature]*  
*20/7/64*  
*D.I. D-*  
*10/7/66*



Reference...PE...604,583.....

321a

NOTE FOR FILE.

On receipt of the information at serial 320a, I spoke to Street and told him the flap appeared to be over. Street said he had already made arrangements so that Mrs. REES could contact the Consular Department Duty Officer over the weekend. He thought these arrangements might as well stand in case REES does not turn up this evening.

2. I then spoke to [redacted] He had already heard from FOOTMAN that Mrs. REES is no longer worried. I then told [redacted] of my conversation with Street and gave him details of the arrangements made. These are as follows. If Mrs. REES wants any help over the weekend, she should contact the Consular Department Duty Officer, Mr. J. H. Lloyd, either at his home telephone number, WEST MALLING 3583, or at his office number, ABBEY 8010 ext. 304. He will be in his office from 09.30 to 18.00 on Saturday and Sunday.

3. At Street's request I gave him Mrs. REES' telephone number KNI 6352, so that he could pass this on to Lloyd.

4. I later spoke to Street again and arranged that if REES does not return and his wife informs Lloyd, the latter will notify Street, who will in turn notify our N.D.O.

*R. C. Symonds*

R. C. Symonds.

D.I./Inv.  
10.7.64.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
20/8/64  
D.I./Inv.  
10/7/64.



Original in PF. 604,589 Supp serial 221a - FOOTMAN.  
Copy for PF. 604,583 - REES.

S Form 338 rev. 2.64 10m 5.64

**SECRET**

320a

NAME: FLANAGAN

Line No.: 4357

Tel. No.: FRO 2712

Date: 10.7.64  
Friday

Responsible Section: D.1.

10 JUL 1964

Incoming call to FLANAGAN from MARGY, who reported-  
M. I just wanted to say I got a postcard - so,  
all is well.

F. Ehm - what did it say?

M. Ehm - it says-'it's all very strange here' -  
and, he's enjoying himself very much.

F. Does it say where he is?

M. No, it doesn't say where he is - it's in a  
very quiet place he says.

F. Ehm.

M. Across the river from the SPORTOK football  
ground.

F. Aha. What's the date?

M. Well - that I can't read.

F. Anyhow, it's come this morning and that's  
happy as far as it goes.

M. Yes - well, it seems to be all right, doesn't it?

F. Yes, yes, indeed.

M. He usually showers these things on us when  
he's away but they probably take longer to  
come from there.

F. I see, yes, yes.

M. Perhaps he's in some very out of the way place,  
d'you think, or something?

F. Er - what's the postmark - PRAGUE - or, can't  
you see? PRAHA.

M. It doesn't seem to -

F. - illegible postmark - illegible date mark?

M. Pretty well, yes.

F. Well, that's very encouraging - warmest  
congratulations!

M. Well, thank you very much.

F. I'll see you this afternoon.

They said goodbye.

09.04

L.E.



Reference...PF...604,583.....

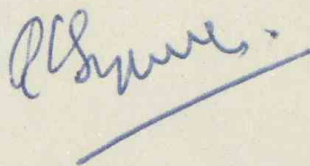
319a

NOTE FOR FILE.

After D. had discussed minute 316 with me, I spoke to [redacted] and said I thought the most practical, and also the most preferable, course of action was for Mrs. REES to be put directly in touch with the Foreign Office. [redacted] did not object to this suggestion and I agreed to speak to Street.

2. I then spoke to Street. He was inclined to think the Consular Department were the right people to help Mrs. REES. I pointed out to him that Mrs. REES might also wish to contact someone out of office hours. Presumably it would therefore also be necessary to brief the Resident Clerk. Street said he would go into this and ring me back the following morning.

3. I then spoke to [redacted] and said I would let him know what had been arranged as soon as I heard from Street.



R. C. Symonds.

D.I./Inv.  
10.7.64.



20/7/64  
D.I./JB  
10/7/64



318a

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
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THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958



Original in PF. 604,589 Supp serial 219a. - FOOTMAN.  
Copy for PF. 604,583. - REES

**SECRET**

317a

NAME: FLANAGAN

Line No.: 4357

Tel. No.: PRO 2712

Date: 9.7.64  
THURSDAY

Responsible Section: D:1.

21 JUL 1964

from ENCOUNTER

Outgoing call FLANAGAN to WAT 5600, Mr. VERNON BAILEY. FLANAGAN talked to him about GORONWY REES mentioning that he had had a breakdown and that he was then taken to a mental hospital after which it was found that he was really suffering from a virus caught in Greece. He mentioned also-'his financial affairs aren't very good and he is rather dependant on assignments from ENCOUNTER'. To MARGY's misgivings he accepted an assignment/to go to PRAGUE to cover an EXHIBITION of the Author KAFKA. FLANAGAN then went on to tell the story, as told to him by MARGY, of REES's 'disappearance'. FLANAGAN remarked that poor GORONWY, being GORONWY, might have got back to his old ways and got very drunk and fallen down etc. BAILEY asked whether she had been into touch with anyone in the FOREIGN OFFICE about this. FLANAGAN said she hadn't. BAILEY would have thought that ought to be the next move. He would seek advice and try and give him a reply by lunch time. He suggested seeking the advice of the Press. 10.30 Though 'officialdom' may wish to know first.

Outgoing call FLANAGAN to MARGY, reporting to her the talk with VERNON BAILEY.

MARGY went on to say-

M. I am worried - it's silly, isn't it, but I am. FLANAGAN thought it would do no harm to ring WOOD again. Should she not hear anything she would have every justification in putting all the wheels in motion.

M. And, if you were me you would, you mean.

F. If I were you I think I would. I think I would - very largely myself - my own state of mind, because it's always nicer to do something than to not do-

M. I feel what would be so awful was if - if we got to tomorrow night and ~~he~~ hadn't done anything - you know and he was ill or something or other.

F. Yes, exactly. You saw him off yourself, I suppose.

M. Yes, The odds are that he's absolutely as fit as a flea, you know -

F. Yes - and, had he got any firm sort of reservation for accommodation in Prague or not?

M. No, he hadn't, that was the thing, you see. They sent a wire out to the PALACE HOTEL and they didn't get an answer.

F. The EMBASSY wired out for him?

M. No the agency - the travel agents - ERNA LOW, who always do ENCOUNTER bookings for them, you know /OVER

2015  
21/07/64



- 2 -

- F. Oh yes, yes, good.
- M. And, this was the first on a list that the CZECH EMBASSY had given him - of hotels to go to, but, I presume, they like people to stay at certain ones in any event, don't they?
- F. Yes, yes - yes, that is their habit, that is very much their habit.
- M. I've only tried five of them, you see. I've tried the four that they suggested and one other<sup>s</sup> GEORGE suggested - where they said there was this other gentleman who obviously wasn't REES.
- F. Which other gentleman?
- M. They said -
- F. Oh - some other English visitor for the KATHKA EXHIBITION.
- M. Some other Mr. REES.
- F. Oh - there was another Mr. REES.
- M. They said there was a Mr. REES - did I tell you?
- F. No.
- M. Well, JENNY was on the 'phone because they speak - gabble away in French and mine's pretty ropy you know, and, we put through personal calls because it's cheaper to do it that way, you know, and they put them all through at once, and then, the last hotel we rang up - I can't remember the name of that - the telephone operator in PRAGUE said to the London operator - 'is Mr. REES a journalist?' - in French and he referred back to JENNY in French and JENNY said 'no, he's a writer' but, I suppose you could call him a journalist.
- F. Yes, she ought to have said journalist in this sense - for this purpose.
- M. And the girl at the other end said - 'Mr. REES has gone' - 'the conference that he was attending is now over'. I mean, there wasn't any good sort of battling on with that.
- F. No.
- M. So, I think it must have been another Mr. REES. JENNY said what kind of a conference was it and they said a 'Peace conference' - so, we assumed it wasn't ours.
- F. (slight laugh) Yes, yes, quite.  
MARGY agreed to try for Mr. WOODS again.

10.37

L.E.



Reference..... PF.604,583

315A

NOTE FOR FILE

\_\_\_\_\_ telephoned me this morning to say that David FOOTMAN had reported to him a telephone conversation which FOOTMAN had had with Margie REES, wife of Goronwy REES. He proceeded to give me the details of this conversation \_\_\_\_\_ told me that he felt he ought to see FOOTMAN to make sure that he had the full story.

2. After seeing FOOTMAN \_\_\_\_\_ called on me and we discussed what should be done. REES apparently had a serious mental breakdown some two months ago. He went into a mental hospital and afterwards convalesced in Yorkshire. While in Yorkshire he was struck down with some physical illness, the cause of which was identified as a virus. The doctor treating him came to the conclusion that this virus probably caused the mental breakdown. When REES set off on his journey to Prague he had barely recovered from the illness.

3. REES is due to return to London by air (presumably Czech Airlines) at approximately 10 p.m. on Friday, 10 July. If he should not be on this flight Mrs. REES would then be really worried and she has asked to be given the telephone number of somebody with whom she can communicate immediately in this event.

4. In discussion with \_\_\_\_\_ we agreed that the only step which might usefully be taken now would be to enquire of the organisers of the Kafka Exhibition whether REES was known to have attended. I therefore telephoned Street, Foreign Office Security Department, and told him the story. He agreed to send a telegram to the Embassy in Prague asking them to make this enquiry but otherwise not to show any alarm.

A. S. Martin

A. S. Martin.

D.1.  
9.7.64.

THIS IS A COPY  
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IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
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ACT 1958 MARCH 2022

*[Handwritten signature]*  
21/10/64  
9.7.64.



307a - 314a .

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT  
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958.



Reference... PF. 604,583.

copy on PF. 604,582.

Jba

NOTE FOR FILE.

I called on Professor BLUNT at his flat on 26th May, 1964. Among other things, I told BLUNT that we intended to interview <sup>REES</sup>RALEIGH in the near future and I wanted his views on our telling <sup>REES</sup>RALEIGH of BLUNT's confession. BLUNT said that he had no love for <sup>REES</sup>RALEIGH any more than <sup>REES</sup>RALEIGH had for him. Therefore there was no personal relationship to be broken up. He did say, however, that he feared that <sup>REES</sup>RALEIGH might try to use this information to spite BLUNT. Therefore he did not welcome the prospect of our informing <sup>REES</sup>RALEIGH but he did not feel able to object if we were certain that it would further our interests.

REES

2. He then asked me if we had considered <sup>REES</sup>RALEIGH's reputation for indiscretion. He said that, in so far as he could look at <sup>REES</sup>RALEIGH objectively, he regarded him as highly indiscreet. He did not necessarily mean that <sup>REES</sup>RALEIGH would publish the information in print but he thought it highly probable that he would gossip both at Oxford and probably among his journalist friends in London. <sup>REES</sup>RALEIGH, he said, was notoriously indiscreet in his cups.

3. I told BLUNT that I would not make a decision on this yet awhile and said that I would certainly take his warning into account. I promised to let BLUNT know if we did decide to use his confession when interviewing <sup>REES</sup>RALEIGH.

A. S. Martin

A. S. Martin.

D.1.  
28.5.64.

BE/16  
30/6.

D11/16  
29/5



TOP SECRET

3062a

Extract for PF 604,583 - REES

Original at serial 360z in PF 604,582 - BLUNT

Extract from Transcription of Interview between D.1/A.S. Martin  
and Sir Anthony BLUNT on Friday, 1st May, 1964.

B Well, Derek <sup>(VERSCHOYLE)</sup> is someone - I just like to tell you one episode, one small thing that occurs to me over Derek, which I was very grateful to. At some moment just after Guy's going, some crucial moment I got a telephone call from a girl called Sheila Nicholson whom I did know fairly well and who was also a friend of his, saying "Having dinner with Derek and he's told me a story that I think you ought to know at once - do come round". So I went round and Derek told me that he had been - I think at a lunch party that day or something at which John Strachey and X,Y,Z, - John's is literally the only one whose name comes to my mind - were present and they were discussing the disappearance and somebody said - I think not John Strachey - "Ah, I know who the next person to disappear is that's Anthony Blunt" and this was put to me as a - Sheila's line was "you'd better know this quickly because otherwise you know John Strachey is going to put it straight to M.I.5 and you'd better be warned, so to speak. And I did in fact go and talk - no - this incidentally is one of the things that bears on the Goronwy <sup>problem</sup> because it so happened that I was seeing Goronwy - I happened to see Goronwy a day or two after this and I was in a fair state of collapse as you can imagine and I told Goronwy this and Goronwy said "What are you going to do about it", I said "Christ, I don't know, there are <sup>only</sup> ~~really~~ two things to do and one is nothing for it didn't seem to me to be terribly important and at that moment I had enough on my plate - or go and talk to Guy Liddell about it. And Goronwy said "You can't do nothing. You <sup>and tell</sup> ~~must~~ go <sup>to</sup> him". So I said "all right I will" and I did - or it may have been Dick, I <sup>can't remember,</sup> ~~am not sure,~~ and I've sometimes wondered whether this may have been the story which Goronwy <sup>con</sup> ~~was~~ fused with the other one about my refusing on a much more important occasion. That <sup>is</sup> ~~is~~ only an hypothesis.

TOP SECRET

27/11/65  
16/2/65



**TOP SECRET**

3062

Extract for PF 604,583, Goronwy REES

Original at serial 355c in PF 604,582

I met Professor BLUNT at 2.30 p.m. on  
Saturday 25 April, at 18 Chandos Court, Caxton  
Street, S.W.1.

. . . . .

BLUNT's Comments on Persons of Interest

Goronwy REES

BLUNT thinks REES' statement to  
Guy Liddell was true. Certainly  
he has no evidence that REES  
worked for BURGESS (or the Russians)  
after the outbreak of war.

. . . . .

D.1.  
27.4.64.

(signed) A.S. Martin

**TOP SECRET**D1182  
6/7



S. Form 81/rev. 11.62

**SECRET**

(306) Wt.11364/7492. 200M. 1/63. K.C.N. Gp.616/1.

**EXTRACT**

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,583 ✓  
 PF. 721,751 Name: REES, Goronwy ✓  
 SOKOLOV GRANT

Original in File No.: PF. 721,751 Supp A Vol.: 6 Serial: 623a Receipt Date: 23.9.63.

Original from: T.C. Under Ref.: 3957 Dated: 22.9.63.

Extracted on: 26.10.64. by: GMacN Section: D.1.

Extract from telecheck on Michael SOKOLOV GRANT, suspected contact of  
the R.I.S. ment. Goronwy REES.

O/G to Maida Vale 2444 - SHEILA to Ian LUVOCK (or LUBBOCK). Ian said he had been trying to do some research on John LUVOCK and Garonwy RHYS had suggested that he should have a chat with SHEILA about it. He had been asked to do it by Christopher SYKES the writer producer who knew the family. SHEILA said that funnily enough Christopher SYKES was already supposed to be getting in touch with her about a biography he was writing on a German friend of hers. She invited Ian down and told him they (we) would be moving house on the 10th October, so she would rather he came after that date when she would be at Mockbeggars Hall, Claydon. Ian gave SHEILA his own address: 21 Holland Park, W.11.

**SECRET**

\*If the original is in the file of an individual  
 include the name of the file owner.



S. Form 81/rev. 11.62

**SECRET**

(306) Wt.11364/7492. 200M. 1/63. K.C.N. Gp.616/1.

**EXTRACT**

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,583 ✓  
 PF. 721,751 Name: REES, Goronwy ✓  
 SOKOLOV GRANT

Original in File No.: PF. 721,751 Supp A Vol.: 6 Serial: 622a Receipt Date: 23.9.63.

Original from: T.C. Under Ref.: 3957 Dated: 21.9.63.

Extracted on: 26.10.64. by: GMacN Section: D.1.

Extract from telecheck on Michael SOKOLOV GRANT, suspected contact of  
the R.I.S. ment. Goronwy REES.

I/C from Mr. LUBBOCK (or Luvoek) asking for Mrs. GRANT, but she was out. LUVOCK told MICHAEL that Garonwy REES had instructed him to ring up. MICHAEL said SHEILA had spoken to him (me) about it and they (we) had half expected LUVOCK to turn up here during the weekend. He gathered LUVOCK was trying to get some information about SHEILA's grandfather. L. said that was so and told MICHAEL that SHEILA's grandfather was his own great uncle. MICHAEL took L.'s telephone number: Maida Vale 2444\* - and said he would ask SHEILA to ring him back when she came in.

19.04

\* Ceased line in January 1964. Previous subscriber:-

Dr. EWANS,  
 5 Broadhurst Gardens,  
 N.W.6.

**SECRET**

\*If the original is in the file of an individual  
 include the name of the file owner.



**SECRET**

(306) Wt.11364/7492. 200M. 1/63. K.C.N. Gp.616/1.

S. Form 81/rev. 11.62

**EXTRACT**

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,583 ✓  
 PF. 721,751 Name: REES, Goronwy ✓  
 SOKOLOV-GRANT

Original in File No.:\* PF. 721,751 Supp A Vol. 6 Serial 621a Receipt Date 20.9.63.

Original from: T.C. Under Ref. 3957 Dated 20.9.63.

Extracted on: 26.10.64. by: GMacN Section: D.1.

Extract from telecheck on Michael SOKOLOV GRANT, suspected contact  
of the R.I.S. ment. Goronwy REES.

I/C call for SHEILA from GARONWY.  
 GARONWY told SHEILA that a relation of hers, IAN LAMBERT, a nice young man working for the B.B.C., was doing a programme on SHEILA's Grandfather. He wanted some more stories about him from GARONWY and from SHEILA. SHEILA would be delighted to help IAN LAMBERT and said she could have him to stay.  
 SHEILA asked GARONWY if he could come to stay before they moved into the more confined space of the top floor of Mockbeggars Hall?  
 GARONWY had just come back from France and was rather busy.

11.52

**SECRET**

\*If the original is in the file of an individual  
 include the name of the file owner.



SECRET

305H

PF 604,583/D.1/EMCB.

25th April, 1963.

Dear

With reference to your letter [redacted] 23rd April, I find that REES' articles in "The People" appeared on 11th, 18th and 25th March, 1956 and on 1st April, 1956. The article of 1st April ends with the note "Next week enter Donald Maclean. A mystery 'phone call - then Burgess disappears", so presumably there should have been an article on Sunday, 8th April, but I have not been able to find one or any reference to it, so it may be that it was never published.

2. The present address of the editorial department of "The People", which is of course a Sunday newspaper, is Odhams Press, 93 Longacre, W.C.2.

Yours

  
 E. McBarnet.

[redacted]  
 In Duplicate.

EMCB/DFG.

Account  
 8.5.63.  
 M.D.P.

SECRET



304a

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT  
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958



H.O.W. No. T.S. 2360.

302a

Morgan Goronwy REES

Knightsbridge 6352

This man was a close friend of Guy BURGESS and other members of his circle. It is desired to know his reactions to the disappearance of H.A.R. PHILBY.

26 February, 1963.

Handwritten notes in the bottom right corner, including a date stamp "8.5.63" and a signature "H. S. 63".



SECRET

3012

PF.604583/D.1/E.McB

25th February, 1963.

Dear Mr. Hawkins,

I am applying for a telephone check on Knightsbridge 6352. The subscriber to this number is Morgan Goronwy REES of 29 South Terrace, S.W.7.

Morgan Goronwy REES is known to have been a friend of Guy BURGESS and his circle, and we are anxious to know his reactions to the news of H. A. R. PHILBY's disappearance.

Yours sincerely,

  
E. McBarnet.

M. A. Hawkins, Esq.,  
G.P.O  
EMcB/GA

SECRET

*Handwritten:*  
Audits  
8.5.63.  
51/60  
43.63



299b  
299c.

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT  
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958



Commonwealth Relations Office.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Code No. 5-90-0

Department **BRITISH COUNCIL**

TO BE COMPLETED IN BLOCK LETTERS OR TYPED

**FORM E.90**

NOTHING RECORDED

Rule AGAINST 27.6.61.

Received 14th June, 1961.

All available information should be included. If information is not available this should be stated.	SUBJECT	SPOUSE. Date of marriage.....	FATHER	MOTHER	DEPARTMENTAL STAMPS & NOTES
1. SURNAME (a) Now ... ..	REES				
(b) At birth if different and any other surnames used ... ..					
2. ALL FORENAMES ... ..	Morgan Goronwy				
3. (a) PRESENT ADDRESS ... .. * If deceased state year of death of spouse, father, mother.	(since.....)	*	*	*	
(b) HOME ADDRESS (if different from present address)	19 Highgate Avenue, London, N.6.  Tel. No. Mountview 0547				
4. NATIONALITY (a) NOW If naturalised give certificate number. If applicable Aliens registration number.					
(b) AT BIRTH if different					
5. DATE OF BIRTH ... ..	29th November, 1909.				
6. PLACE OF BIRTH ... ..	Great Britain.				
7. OCCUPATION ... ..	Author				
8. PROPOSED EMPLOYMENT ...	Specialist Tour for British Council in India in December, 1961.				
9. PARTICULARS OF EMPLOYMENT during last three years with dates.  (continue overleaf)					

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



S Form 81B 5m 12.60

SECRET

297a

## EXTRACT

Extract for File No.: PF.604,583 ~~PF.13,587~~ PF.151,576 Name: REES KATKOV  
 Original in File No.:\* PF.116,494 Supp.B Vol.: 6 Serial: 451a Receipt Date: 22.3.61  
 Original from: T/C on TAUSSIG Under Ref.: 3631 Dated: 21.3.61  
 Extracted on: 19.4.61 by: AR Section: D.1

Extract from Hans TAUSSIG - suspected R.I.S. Agent

21.3.61.

o/g to MOU: 0547 - ANNE-MARIE has a long friendly talk with "MARJORY."  
 She mentions that CAMILLO may be offered a job in MILAN. She hopes  
 it falls through as she would like to spend another year here in  
 England. Distant mentions that she is not very well and had hoped  
 to go to bed early tonight, however "GEORGE KOTKOV (ph.) has just rung  
 up, do you remember him, that Russian from Oxford; did you meet him  
 at our party? A wild Russian. He must see REES tonight. He is  
 always doing this and you never know whether it is something really  
 serious or whether it is nothing at all. Anyway, he is coming all  
 the way up." ANNE-MARIE and her husband hope to go away for the  
 Easter week-end. Distant suggests that they join her.

KATKOV

15.16.

o/g to BEL: 1461. ANNE-MARIE tells her husband that MARJORY has asked  
 them to join her and her husband for the Easter week-end. EMMA, who  
 will be "going that way", has offered to give them a lift. They will  
 start at 8 a.m. on Friday, the 31st.

15.36.

x an employee of TAUSSIG of no security interest.  
 DI/ROS

\*If the original is in the file of an individual  
 include the name of the file owner

SECRET

DI/ROS  
 19.4.61



S. Form 354 3000/10.59.

COPY

296a

Extract for File No.: P. F. 604, 583. Name: .....

Original in File No.: P. F. 604, 529. Vol.: 33 Serial: 1386a Receipt Date: 26. 10. 60.

Original from/to: Intercept letter. Under Ref.: - Dated: 24. 10. 60.

Extracted on: 31. 10. 60. by: C. J. P. Section: R. 5.



Rec'd 26-10-60



1386a

Guy Burgess Esq.,  
53-5, Tolshaya Puosovskaya  
Kbt. 68,  
MOSCOW

U.S.S.R.

mm



CHRIST CHURCH,  
OXFORD.

24 Oct. 1960

Yan

Munby, librarian, Kings College writes:

"I expect that Burgess means the thick notebook on accession lists, of which you reproduced the page relating to Descartes. His Defoe is not stated in that. Munby only recorded those authors which he was trying to complete (Defoe was not among them) to avoid buying duplicates, and he did not have any complete list of his books. How generous of Burgess to have subscribed to the Arts Theatre Critique".

I ought to return to you also on Goronwy. This means going back a little. I forget if I told you of the unfortunate incident at the wedding party (for Sebastian, son of Henry Yorke, alias Green). It was quite some time after he published the articles and after he had been sent from Aberystwyth. I had not seen him or written to him since the articles. When I saw him at the wedding I thought one must not be too censorious, especially after his calamity, and I went up and addressed some friendly words to him. I asked him what he was doing, and he replied that he was getting on quite well in some business enterprise, but suffered from a shortage of capital. "Oh, well Goronwy", I said, "that ought not to give you any bother; you have only to write a few articles for the newspapers". After that I think we were pushed away from each other by the thronging guests.

It was sometime after that that you wrote in generous terms about him. Between the wedding party and your letter he had had a most frightful accident and had lain in hospital for many months in the most acute pain. He describes his hospital experience in the last chapter of his book "A Bundle of Sensations". I must say that I enjoyed the book very much; I think that you would like it.

When I conveyed your message to him later he replied in a way that seemed to me unsatisfactory, and I did not mention the matter to you when next I wrote. He took rather a high line, implying that forgiveness was not quite in place. I did not know how to explain this letter. It may have been (1) that, having taken his pompous line in his (very unpompous) articles about the communist sympathisers, he was not prepared at that time to repudiate it; or (2) it may be that he was still feeling shattered after his frightful ordeal in hospital, or (3) it may be that his letter was directed somewhat against

W. M. J. R.  
4.11.60  
J. M. J.  
27.10.60



me. In writing to him I made some sort of feeble apology for my harsh words at the wedding party which he may well have thought quite inadequate to the grievousness of the offence given. He may not have chosen to want me to be the channel of any agreeable communication to you.

*new para*

I met him again at a wedding party the other day. These ancient rituals evidently still serve some purpose! This time it was the second marriage of Freddie Ayer. Then he was altogether different. We had a long and friendly talk together. I made a much more handsome apology for my harsh words at the earlier wedding party. I mentioned you. He said that he would like me to convey to you that he was deeply touched by what you had said about forgiving him. So I now do so. // There was a headline in the Oxford Mail the other day about your having the idea that it would be nice to return here for a holiday. I often wonder where you would really like the remainder of your days to be spent, and whether you have made good friends in Russia. If you returned here you might, of course, be disappointed in your old friends, finding them faded, dried up, in a groove, lacking the vital spark that they had in the old days. Perhaps that is too ~~optimistic~~ *permanence*.

When you left I thought that many people made too much heavy weather about it. What worried me chiefly was the idea that you might not stay alive for long. Although I ~~saw~~ *felt* that what you did and the way you did it were both open to criticism, I did not feel able to attach moral blame without knowing the facts. I felt sure that you were neither a spy nor a traitor. And indeed I had a little feeling that if your presence in Russia had any influence at all, it would probably be an influence in a good direction. But it has to be confessed that there was a good deal of righteous indignation about you, even, I think, among people nearer you than I am in the political spectrum. So I suppose that if you came here, there would be a mixed reception; but you have had experience of tougher ordeals than that. I can assure you that on my side nothing would give me greater pleasure than to see you here again. Of course about the official attitude I know nothing. Is there anything that I can do in that connection? I should not think so.

Guy Burgess Esq.  
63-5 Tolshaya Luorovskaya  
Kot. 66 MO CO.

*R. HARRIS*

27/6



295e

P.F. 604,583.

Note.

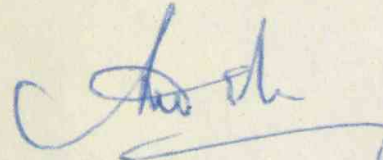
[redacted] A.l.A., phoned this morning to say that Brandon, Passport Office, had asked for urgent observations concerning the issue of a new passport to Goronwy REES.

2. REES, who gives his address as 19, Highgate Avenue, N.6., requires a passport to visit the "usual European Countries, the U.S.A., and Tunis".

3. After reference to D.l. I told A.l.A. that we had no objection.

D.l.  
—

24.11.59.



M. T. E. Clayton.

Alks  
25.11.59  
26.11.59



For P.A. on PF.604,583 ✓  
Original in PF.604,529

294A

Extracts from D.1 note on interview with Anthony BLUNT

Sir Anthony BLUNT telephoned to me yesterday asking whether he could see me, and I arranged to see him at 12.30 today, which I did in his flat in the Courtauld Institute.

9. BLUNT said that if BURGESS did come back it would not only involve him in personal ruin but also others such as Geronwy REES, whose ruin he accepted with equanimity, if not delight. He said that the last he had heard of REES was that he had gone into building small suburban houses together with Derek VERSCHOYLE. We agreed that anybody who was foolish enough to buy a small suburban house built by these two would end in calamity and rubble after the first rainstorm. BLUNT, while giving credit to Derek VERSCHOYLE for giving him, BLUNT, his first job as art

critic on The Spectator, stated that he was the kind of person one <sup>would</sup> show to a continental who wished to know the definition of a cad, and added that he was also one of the finer examples of a four-letter man. He went on to say that Randolph Churchill qualified for the second definition but not for the first.

D.1.  
24.2.59

Courtenay Young

✓ P/E  
2.3.59



LOOSE MINUTE  
Reference ON PF. 604,583.

**SECRET**

D.I. (Mr. C. T. Young) ✓  
Copy to A.

When leaving No. 3/4 Clarence Terrace at 1.10 p.m. today I noticed a male figure stepping into No. 2 Clarence Terrace, the house which adjoins the A.4 Headquarters. This individual turned on his heel and stepped onto the pavement with his hand outstretched to greet me. It was Goronwy REES, subject of the above mentioned PF. Although I instantly recognised him, and the recognition was mutual, he has changed slightly, which is not surprising in view of the conversation which ensued.

Saying how glad he was to find that we were neighbours and that I should be living next door to him, he told me that he had been in and out of hospital, mainly in, for the last two years, following an accident. Apparently he was run over by a motor car. He was carrying a pot of honey, and I have no doubt that he lives at No. 2, Clarence Terrace now, but the Voters' List at 10.10.58. shows the occupants as: -

CALDER	Vivienne S.
COLLIER	Charlotte A.
LEWIS	Barbara
MACNEICE	Louis F.
MACNEICE	Hedli M.
WRIGHT	Marigold

That he should be living there with, or in the same address as, Louis MACNEICE, who I believe to be the householder, makes it slightly less surprising, since they have so much in common.

We know that Goronwy REES is an acute observer. From what he said it might be imagined that he thinks that I live at 4 Clarence Terrace, and I said nothing which might affect this opinion.

In considering this matter I think it is worthwhile remembering that he could easily, today, have avoided me, but went out of his way to make himself known. I think that he is slightly more spare in appearance, and somewhat less robust than when I last saw him, but then, of course, he was Principal of the University of Wales at Aberystwyth, a job which he might have retained, as he knows, if he had taken my advice.

Reference to our "telephone directory" shows that there are two telephone lines at 2 Clarence Terrace, one, Mrs. Hedli MCNEICE - X D, and Louis MACNEICE - Paddington 5380.

A.4.  
21.2.59.

W. J. Skardon.

**SECRET**



292a.

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT  
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958



SECRET

290a

PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY,  
HOME OFFICE.

CANCELLATION OF HOME OFFICE WARRANT.

It is requested that the following Home Office Warrant be cancelled:

H.O.W. No.: 12058

Name: Morgan Goronwy REES

Address: Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth,  
Cardiganshire.  
and  
c/o The University College of Wales,  
Aberystwyth.

Telephone No.:  
(if applicable)

Date: 18th November 1957 Signature:

Copies to:—G.P.O., MR. G. A. HARLOW\*/MAJOR A. E. DENMAN, M.B.E.\*

A.2

File ✓ PF 604,583/DIA

~~Hold DIA~~  
no longer held by  
Held RS  
DIA

\*Delete whichever is inapplicable.

S. Form 416

SECRET

✓  
DEC  
2.12.57



**SECRET.**

289a

H.O.W. No.....12058.....

File No.....604,583/D1

**A.2.C.** for :

G.P.O.:—MR. G. A. HARLOW.

Please cancel the operation of the H.O.W. on the following :—

Name.....Morgan Goronwy REES.....

Address.....Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire.....  
And: c/o The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

Date.....7.11.57..... Signature.....J. H. W. ....

Don  
Shub 57

S. Form 18/4000/rev. 10.54.



SECRET.

2881A

H.O.W. No.....1717.....

File No. ....PF. 604,583.....

A.2.A. for :

G.P.O. :—MR. ~~SAFFERT~~ MAJOR A. E. DENMAN.

Please cancel the operation of the H.O.W. on the following :—

Name.....Goronwy REES.....

Telephone No.....Sonning 3197 - Aberystwyth 7983.....

Date.....30.10.57..... Signature.....

Courtenay Young



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

THE TIMES

Date. 3 MAY 1957

QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION  
LIBEL ACTION AGAINST  
UNIVERSITY EX-PRINCIPAL  
SETTLED

BALL v. REES AND OTHERS

Before MR. JUSTICE FINNEMORE

The settlement was announced of this libel action by Sir Joseph Ball, of The Old Mill, Ramsbury, Wiltshire, against Mr. Goronwy Rees, former principal of the University of Wales, Mr. Nathan Rothman, and Odhams Press Ltd., publishers of *The People*, in respect of an article appearing in the issue of that newspaper on March 25, 1956, headed "Burgess Stripped Bare."

Mr. Colin Duncan appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Hugh Davidson for the defendants.

MR. DUNCAN announcing the settlement said that Odhams Press Ltd., the third defendants, were the publishers of *The People*, a Sunday newspaper. Mr. Nathan Rothman, the second defendant, was the features editor of that newspaper. In 1956 there appeared in *The People* a series of articles based upon information supplied by Mr. Goronwy Rees, the first defendant, concerning the life and habits of Mr. Guy Burgess, under the general title "Burgess Stripped Bare."

On March 25, 1956, in one of the articles it was alleged that shortly before the last war a British intelligence organization, of which the plaintiff was said to be the head, had recruited Guy Burgess as a member. The article strongly criticized the choice of Burgess on the ground that he led a notorious private life and suggested that this choice had had a most damaging consequence in that it enabled him to obtain a foothold in the British Secret Service. In fact Sir Joseph Ball had no connexion whatever with any intelligence organization before the war and had not even heard of Burgess until news of his disappearance was published in the newspapers in 1951.

The defendants had no intention of casting any reflections on Sir Joseph Ball and they regretted that the article complained of should be understood in any such sense. Sir Joseph Ball, for his part, was content to dispose of this matter by taking out of Court the sum of money which has been paid in and by clearing his name by this statement in open court.

Solicitors.—Messrs. William Charles Crocker; Messrs. Simmons & Simmons.



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

4A/DI P.A. Res. *smw*  
286A  
3 MAY 1957

Date.....

DAILY TELEGRAPH

*Mr Rees will  
win li. sum  
Pm*

## LIBEL DAMAGES FOR SIR J. BALL

### BURGESS ARTICLE

A libel action by Sir Joseph Ball, arising out of an article on Guy Burgess, was settled in the High Court yesterday when Mr. Colin Duncan, his counsel, said Sir Joseph was content to take out of court a sum which had been paid in and to have his name cleared.

Sir Joseph, former director of the Conservative party's research department, brought the action against Mr. Goronwy Rees, former Principal of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth; Mr. Nathan Rothman, features editor of the People; and Odhams Press, publishers of the newspaper.

Mr. Duncan said the article, based on information from Mr. Rees, appeared on March 25 last year. It said that shortly before the last war a British Intelligence organisation, of which Sir Joseph was said to be the head, had recruited Burgess as a member. It strongly criticised the choice.

"In fact, Sir Joseph Ball had no connection whatever with any Intelligence organisation before the war and had not even heard of Burgess until news of his disappearance was published in the newspapers in 1951."

*only 1 copy available  
unless we re-order*



Reference.....

PF. 604583

NOTE

Admiral Thomson told me this afternoon that he had lunched with Chapman PINCHER, who had told him that Goronwy REES had handed to the "Daily Express" the manuscript which he had written out containing his knowledge of BURGESS and which he, Goronwy REES, had forwarded to the "People" and which formed the basis of the "People" articles. Admiral Thomson further told me that Chapman PINCHER had seen Goronwy REES, or rather reporters from the "Daily Express" had seen him, and that REES had told these reporters that he had furnished to M.I.5. information about Fred WARNER, of the Foreign Office, dealing with Fred WARNER's association with BURGESS - particularly on the homosexual side. Chapman PINCHER had rung the Foreign Office and had asked them whether Fred WARNER had been sacked or transferred. According to Chapman PINCHER the Foreign Office rang him back later and informed him that WARNER had been transferred. In the light of what Goronwy REES had told the "Express" reporters, Chapman PINCHER wondered whether WARNER had been transferred as a result of the information provided by Goronwy REES to the Security Service.

Mr. Courtenay Young and I told Admiral Thomson that we knew nothing about this matter and that, if we did, we were not in a position to give him information to pass to Chapman PINCHER. I told Admiral Thomson that I thought Chapman PINCHER was wasting his time trying to get a story on this ground and that he would be well advised to lay off it.

L.A.  
25.4.56

B. A. Hill



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

DAILY EXPRESS

25 FEB 1957  
Date.....

## A FRIEND OF BURGESS QUITS

PRINCIPAL Goronwy Rees, 46-year-old white-haired chief of the University College of Wales at Aberystwyth, has handed in his resignation to the college registrar.

Friends said last night that Mr. Rees, former lieutenant-colonel in Army Intelligence and one-time friend of runaway diplomat Guy Burgess, had done this partly through "constant sniping from certain quarters."

The principal first offered his resignation last July after complaints about publication by him of a series of newspaper articles denouncing Burgess.

*P. Rees.*



284A

EVENING STANDARD 11.2.57.

*Evening Standard 11.2.57.*

*P.A. on Rees.  
5th*

## **Sir Joseph Ball seeks libel damages**

Sir Joseph Ball, 71-year-old company director, is bringing an action for alleged libel against Mr. M. Goronwy Rees, principal of Aberystwyth University.

The action, in which Sir Joseph claims damages, appears in the list of forthcoming Queen's Bench cases issued this afternoon. There are two other defendants, whose names are not revealed in the list.

Sir Joseph was director of publicity for the Tory Party from 1927-1930. He was director of the Tory research department from 1930 until 1939.



Gorony's <sup>21</sup>article which she had not seen, she immediately rang him up in Wales & he denied having written it, they talked for some time, & he wouldn't admit it, but she knew by things he said that he really had -

She asked me if you could understand him doing such a thing, I said no, but you imagined it had been for money - she said I am wondering

whether he lies to me, apparently meaning about other things - he obviously tried to make mischief I think, about the Paris trip, repeated something you were supposed to have said - Rosamund

had told me what it was, I could see that she felt deflated still about her reception in Paris, she said she felt very lonely there, knew you had lots to do, but she had such a feeling of depression, thinking France was going to fall.

& Gorony's ~~remark~~ mischief making remark just finished her off - I told her that you thought

cut for  
Pier



(52614) WT.46929/7989 200,000 8/56 A.&amp;E.W.LTD. GP.677

S. Form 81/rev. 12.53

SECRET  
EXTRACT

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,583 Name: REES, Goronwy

Original in File No.:\* PF. 604,519 Vol.: 19 Serial: 904a Receipt Date: 4.157.

Original from: Int. letter Under Ref.: Dated: 3.1.57

Extracted on: 16.1.57 by: PMD Section: D.1.

EXTRACT FROM INT. LETTER FROM MRS. BASSETT TO GUY BURGESS MENTIONING REES

\* If the original is in the file of individual  
include the name of the file owner

LEHRMAN  
2/16/57



Original in PF.604,529 volume 19, 902a.  
Page 1 copied for PF.604,583

TOP SECRET

WARNING  
1875  
REFER TO APPROPRIATE  
OFFICER BEFORE USING

RUSSIAN

21st December, 1956.

10.15 hours:

Guy BURCESS, Moscow, telephoned his Mother, London.

(Beginning missed)

London: Did Tom DRIBERG tell you about the cocktail party - that they wouldn't let him in?

Moscow: No.

London: You know your friend BRIAN HOWARD (phon) - I always forget his name.

Moscow: HOWARD (phon), yes.

London: Well, he, you know him very well, took a flat in Curzon Street for 2 months.

Moscow: Yes.

London: And he had a small cocktail party of 12...

Moscow: Yes.

London: To which he asked Tom DRIBERG and various people. Well, the telephone rang and one of the guests, it wasn't Henry YORK, I don't know who it was, Tom wouldn't tell me...

Moscow: Yes.

London: Rang up and said: could he bring <sup>Geronwy</sup> ~~GRANTWAY~~ (phon) who is staying with him.

Moscow: Yes.

London: And, well, Brian felt very ill because he wasn't at all well, he didn't know what to say, he got so flustered he said yes. Well apparently Sam was so angry, and other people, when they wouldn't have him back, well luckily what happened was the bell rang when they were all there and Sam went to the door....

Moscow: Yes.

London: Lucky he went and he said: "Oh, the party is over" Of course there was a lot of noise going on, and then ~~GRANTWAY~~ (phon) said: "Well, I've come to fetch <sup>Geronwy</sup> ~~so-and-so~~, who luckily had arrived before him.

Moscow: Yes.

London: And they (said) he had left 10 minutes ago, so ~~GRANTWAY~~ had to retire hurt.

Moscow: Ha! ha! ha!

copy TO F.O.

London: Darling, do tell me the news.

Moscow: (indistinct) any news.

London: /...

M.I.5.

K3/18  
16/5/69  
Dib/56



D.1. CTY and Col. Cumming for information

TOP SECRET

PF. 604,583

Reference... Loose Minute

NOTE

736/AIC/K

170 DEC 1956

A. Thank you. 10/12.

On 4 December, 1956, on my way back to London from Cambridge by the evening train, I shared a compartment with Mr. Willink, Master of Magdalene. We discussed again at some length the progress of the enquiry on which he was engaged. He told me that he had recently drafted a new paragraph for the report on REES' motives for publishing the articles in the People. He had slightly changed his views and thought that it was not primarily for money but that the real reason was fear. REES had been an admittedly open and close associate of BURGESS for twenty years. When BURGESS disappeared REES took the line that he had not gone to Russia, no doubt hoping that nothing more would be heard of him (e.g. his remark in 1953 "If Mr. CONNOLLY will believe that - that BURGESS was in Russia - he will believe anything"). When BURGESS reappeared in February, 1956, REES was afraid that BURGESS would damage or compromise him in some way. He therefore wished to get his blow in first by damaging BURGESS' character and saying what a dangerous man he was.

Willink said that he had questioned REES about why the 2,000 guineas which he received for the articles had been paid to REES' solicitor and not into REES' bank account. REES was rather evasive on this point and said that there was some arrangement whereby his solicitor paid some accounts, such as school bills, from his literary earnings. Willink has not yet got to the bottom of this but thinks it is probably some income tax racket. He put to REES fairly plainly that he thought that possibly he was being black-mailed but REES denied this.

I understood from Willink that the MS. which REES had handed to Willink and which the latter thought would have to be published as an annex to their report will not in fact be published - only a few choice extracts will appear.

Willink had engaged in a comparison of the MS. with the articles as they appeared in the People and had noted that a certain amount of the obscenity, i.e. passages about BURGESS' homosexuality, had been omitted, but that certain persons mentioned in the MS. had either been named or pinpointed more closely. This additional information the People must have got from REES and therefore his claim that the form in which the articles appear<sup>ed</sup> was entirely the responsibility of the People is not quite justified.

Willink said that his committee had been quite satisfied with the limited amount of information which I had said he could reveal to them. He assured me again that there was no risk of any reference to our having been consulted in the enquiry appearing in the report.

D.H. Whyte.

D.1.  
6.12.56.

(885)  
WcTY4149/Dd532  
9/55 868,000  
JC&SLtd  
Gp671/34  
REGIMINT  
CODE 18-75

TOP SECRET



279A

PF.604,583

NOTE FOR FILE

came round and saw D. and myself this afternoon.

2. He said that last night he had received a telephone call from Goronwy REES who was up in town with his wife staying with Freddie AYER. There was some hesitation in his voice, but at once said he would be delighted to see him, and would REES come round with his wife at once for a drink. After they arrived the conversation was largely on generalities; then Mrs. REES left the room to talk to who was ill in bed.

3. REES at once brought up the subject of BURGESS and asked whether did not think that he, REES, had done the right thing. asked him whether he could define his motives for writing the articles, and REES said that it was perfectly simple. He had a passionate conviction that he must do anything, even if it involved crucifying himself, to expose BURGESS. When BURGESS made his first public appearance in Moscow REES felt that he must do everything he could to prevent BURGESS showing himself as a "knight in shining armour" (REES used this phrase repeatedly). He had thought over the matter time and time again until the articles after came out, and was still absolutely convinced that if he had his time over again, even knowing the consequences in which the publication would involve him, he would not hesitate to follow the same course.

4. asked him why he had chosen The People, and REES replied that it was no good writing for the literary press such as the Sunday Times or producing a clever little vignette like Cyril CONNOLLY. It was essential to get the facts about BURGESS to the widest possible public, and he had therefore chosen The People, which had the largest Sunday circulation.

5. REES said that whatever the result of the Court of Inquiry he felt he would have to leave Aberystwyth. He told that the day before he had been in the box, as it were, before Mr. Willink, being questioned and cross-questioned over the articles. Willink was quite unable to understand REES's motives and he, REES, regarded him as completely unsympathetic. He contrasted Willink with the extremely correct and understanding conversations he had had with M.I.5 after the publication of the articles.

6. In this connection he told that M.I.5 had come to visit him as soon as the articles were produced, and he had told them how they had come about, i.e. that they were The People's version of his original manuscript. M.I.5 had asked whether they could see the manuscript and he had at first refused. On being pressed he had agreed to give them the manuscript on two conditions: firstly that it should be seen only by a strictly limited number of people in Government departments, and secondly that it would not be seen by certain members of M.I.5 whom he named. These conditions were accepted by M.I.5.

7. He said later..../



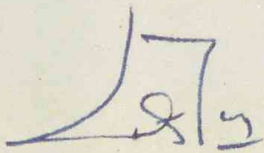
279A

- 2 -

7. He said later that he had had several interviews with M.I.5 and he thought that he had been of assistance to them. They had told him that in order to use his knowledge to the full they would have to tell him a quantity of highly secret facts, and for this reason the interviews were shrouded under the Official Secrets Acts. He did, however, tell [redacted] that M.I.5 were fascinated by one revelation of his, which was the way that BURGESS had manoeuvred him, REES, to act as a recruiter and tapper of information from a certain Mr.X. He refused to give [redacted] Mr.X's name.

8. [redacted] own view was that REES's motives for publishing the articles were mixed; partially pique at having been outwitted by BURGESS (he used the phrase "BURGESS tricked me" in the course of his conversation) and partly in order to get his blow in first, i.e. to launch his attack on BURGESS before BURGESS could launch any attack against him. This, [redacted] admitted, would imply that REES had never been entirely frank with the authorities.

9. We thanked [redacted] for coming round and telling us this. He said that he would probably be seeing REES once or twice in the next two months, and if the subject of BURGESS came up again he would let us know. D. suggested that he should get in touch with me, as I was rather closer to the case than he, D., was.



D.1.  
16.11.56

Courtenay Young



Reference PF. 604,583 274a

NOTE

I called on Mr. WILLINK at The Master's Lodge, Magdalene, at 2.30 on 10 November, 1956. Mr. WILLINK gave me a cordial welcome.

WILLINK told me that his Committee consisted of "HILL of Nottingham University", (this is J.W.F. HILL, President of the Council of Nottingham University), "Warboys of I.C.I., and a retired senior Civil Servant BAXTER". (George Herbert BAXTER, former Under-Secretary of State in the C.R.O., date of birth 30.11.94.). Its terms of reference are to enquire into the situation at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. In fact, the crux of their examination of the situation rests with REES' articles in The People and what is his justification as Principal of the University in writing such articles. WILLINK explained to me that soon after REES had openly admitted that he was the author of the articles in The People he had had an informal meeting with Sir David Hughes PARRY, President of the Council of the University. At this informal meeting REES and PARRY reached a gentlemen's agreement as to future course of action. This involved REES' resignation. Unfortunately after this meeting REES seems to have changed his ground and there was disagreement between REES and PARRY regarding the exact terms of their gentlemen's agreement.

WILLINK explained to me at some length the developments of the situation at Aberystwyth but I do not think it need be recorded here; ~~but~~ at any rate having at first opposed the proposal to set up a Committee of Enquiry REES has now shifted his ground and demanded one and is co-operating fully with the Committee in its work.

The Committee is going into the circumstances of the publication of the articles in considerable detail - for instance they have been hearing evidence from REES' literary agent. They are also attaching as an exhibit to their report REES' MS. which has, I think, horrified WILLINK in some passages.

WILLINK has clearly already personally come to the opinion that REES' motive in having the articles published was to make money. He got £2,000 for the articles and REES has said that the cheque was sent to his solicitors. WILLINK thought that this was a little bit curious and wondered if he was by any chance being blackmailed. WILLINK also commented that REES in his youth had probably been a pretty boy who had probably passed through a homosexual stage, and he thought he might have had homosexual relations with BURGESS.

I explained to WILLINK the difficulties which confronted us in helping the work of his Committee. I said I could speak to him in his capacity as a trusted contact of our Organisation and not in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee. As a secret organisation we could not disclose our records to a private person or private organisation. WILLINK readily saw this point and agreed that his use of anything which I told him would be restricted in whatever way we thought desirable.

I then gave WILLINK an account of REES' transactions with our Service at the time of the BURGESS and MACLEAN case and arising from the publication of his articles in The People. I then told WILLINK that all he could say to his Committee was that he had consulted the appropriate Authorities and that certain statements made by REES were untrue, misleading, or were true. I also made it clear to WILLINK that we would not want any reference to the fact that he had consulted the Security Authorities to appear in any published report or in anything which ~~Colonel~~ REES might see. WILLINK agreed with this provision.

WILLINK thought this probably left him with quite enough room for manoeuvre with his Committee but we agreed that if he felt that on any particular point he would like to say more to his Committee he would refer either to Colonel Cumming or me so that we could take advice on that point.

/I understood

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CODE 18-75



I understood from WILLINK that he hoped that he would be able to persuade REES to offer his resignation without the Committee formally having to present a report to the Council of the University.

D.H. Whyte.

D.1.  
12.11.56.



Reference PF. 604,583

272a

NOTE

On 8 November a further discussion was held between D.D.G., Mr. Robertson, Mr. Hill and Mr. Whyte, as to the best way in which we could offer advice to Mr. WILLINK without causing embarrassment to the Security Service.

Mr. Hill pointed out:-

1. That as a secret Government organisation we should not disclose to a private body, such as Mr. WILLINK's Committee, information from our records.
2. In the event of BURGESS returning to the U.K. Goronwy REES might be an important witness for the prosecution. It was important, therefore, that it should not become known to Goronwy REES that we had advised WILLINK in a sense adverse to REES' interests.

After a brief discussion it was agreed:

1. That at the outset Mr. Whyte should make clear to Mr. WILLINK that as a secret department we could not disclose to him information from our records, but we were anxious to help as much as we could and were prepared to speak to him in his capacity as a valued friend of our organisation and not in his official capacity as Chairman of the Committee.
2. That he should advise Mr. WILLINK that the most he (Mr. WILLINK) could say to his Committee about such advice as we had offered was that he had personally made enquiries in confidence of the appropriate authorities and he had been advised that certain of the statements \* made by REES were without foundation.
3. That references to the fact that Mr. WILLINK had received advice from us should not appear in any report published by the Committee or in any documents which might come to the sight of Goronwy REES.
4. Subject to these provisions Mr. Whyte should do all he could to assist Mr. WILLINK.

\* Note: Mr. Whyte in his oral advice would define which these statements were.

D.1.  
9.11.56.

D. H. Whyte.



Reference Loose Minute

27/c

P.A.  
~~D.I./DW.~~ ~~D.W.~~  
 9/11

As agreed with D., I spoke WILLINK, saying that I thought we might be able to help him. He would be delighted to see you at his Lodge at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 10 November.

2. He first suggested that he should assemble his Committee to meet you, but I said this did not appeal to us at all.

3. I explained that we proposed you should talk with him privately and frankly in his capacity as a confidential collaborator of ours, and that you would indicate which matters he could use in his Committee's deliberations and which others were only for his own information. He said he quite appreciated the position and would faithfully follow your stipulations.

A.  
 8.11.56.

Lt. Colonel M.E.D. Cumming.

Copy to ~~D.~~

REGIMITE  
 Code 18-76  
 E.S.Ltd.  
 52-2105

34/3



PF. 604583

27119

Admiral Thomson called to see me this morning and I briefly told him the facts and of the request we had had from the Rt. Hon. Henry WILLINK. I asked him how much we could tell WILLINK about the functions of the Press Committee.

Admiral Thomson told me that he would have no objection to Henry WILLINK being told fully the functions of the Committee. The Admiral said that what the press were worried about always in these cases was the fact that they voluntarily co-operated with the Government on security matters, but there was no secrecy about the Committee or its functions.

L.A.  
8.11.56.

B. A. Hill. *B. A. Hill* →



Reference PF. 604,583

NOTE

On 7 November, 1956, at 1600 hours a meeting was held to consider what reply should be made to the letter from Mr. WILLINK, President of Magdalene, at serial 265a. Present at the meeting were Mr. Robertson, Colonel Cumming, Mr. Hill, Mr. Young, and Mr. Whyte. The meeting had before it the memorandum, comments and draft at serial 267a.

2. It was agreed that a reply should be made to the President of Magdalene and that it would be desirable for our reply to be as helpful as possible.

3. After a brief discussion it was agreed that subject to the approval of D.D.G. a reply should be given to WILLINK in the following terms:-

1. In his letter and statement to the College Council, Mr. REES has suggested that his articles in The People were written with the approval and even at the instigation of the Authorities. This is not true.
2. After an announcement of the forthcoming articles had appeared in The People, at Admiral Thomson's suggestion, the articles were submitted by the People for security clearance and were returned for publication. This did not imply that the Authorities approved of the content<sup>or security</sup> of the articles or sponsored their publication.
3. After the appearance of the first article in The People Mr. REES was interviewed by the Security Authorities. He was asked certain questions arising from statements made in his articles and he supplied certain information in expansion of them. These discussions were subject to the Official Secrets Acts.

4. It was agreed that since Mr. Whyte was going to Cambridge at the week-end, advantage might be taken of this and that he should be instructed to call on Mr. WILLINK and pass on this reply to him. At the same time he could expand and supplement this reply for Mr. WILLINK's own personal information on the lines of the comments at 267a.

*D.H. Whyte*  
D.H. Whyte.

D.1.  
7.11.56.



267a

5

BRIEF MEMORANDUM OF GORONWY REES' TRANSACTIONS  
WITH THE SECURITY SERVICE ARISING FROM THE BURGESS  
AND MACLEAN CASE AND THE PUBLICATION OF HIS ARTICLES  
IN THE PEOPLE

---

1. BURGESS and MACLEAN disappeared 25.4.51.
2. 1.6.51. REES told D.D.G. about BURGESS' telephone conversation with his wife. We said we were interested. REES sent through David FOOTMAN to D.D.G. an account of this conversation.
3. 6.6.51. REES and BLUNT of their own volition came to see D.B. REES stated that BURGESS had told him before the war that he was a Comintern agent and had enlisted REES' assistance. REES made a signed statement to this effect.
4. 7.6.51. REES seen for the second time by D.B.
5. 24.7.51. REES re-interviewed by Robertson and Martin. REES expanded his statement re BURGESS' activities.
6. 4.3.56. announcement appeared in The People "Now We can Strip BURGESS Bare". Name of author not given and unknown to us.
7. 6.3.56. Admiral Thomson wrote to The People for an advance view of the articles under D. Notice procedure.
8. 8.3.56. It was agreed that although the articles were highly objectionable we could not stop The People publishing them. At the same time from internal evidence of the first article we identified author as REES.
9. 9.3.56. L.A. took to D.P.P. copy of the article and statements made by REES and BLUNT.
10. 11.3.56. Under instructions Skardon and Reed got in touch with REES and interviewed him at Aberystwyth. They put to him questions arising from statements made in his article which had appeared on that day. REES handed them MS. of his book.
11. 21.3.56. REES interviewed again by Skardon and Reed at Paddington Hotel. At outset REES was warned that the talk was subject to O.S.As and he could not use any information which he gained from it.
12. 30.3.56. REES told reporter from Western Mail that he was the author of the articles, that he had been interviewed by MI5 and that all facts set out in the article had been reported to MI5 immediately after BURGESS' disappearance.
13. 15.4.56. Skardon and Reed visited the East End with REES in order to identify a shop visited by BURGESS.
14. 24.4.56. REES wrote Skardon asking for advice over writ taken out by Sir Joseph BALL. No advice was given.
15. 9.8.56. REES asked Skardon's advice about a proposed visit to Czechoslovakia. A non-committal reply was given.

As a result of these articles REES resigned from the Committee on Homosexuality and Prostitution at the prompting of the Home Secretary.

D.1.  
7.11.56.



COMMENTS UPON REES'S STATEMENTS AS  
REPRODUCED BY THE PRESIDENT OF MAGDALENE

---

Statement

Comment

"The method ... was not of my choosing ..."

This comment implies that the method was officially inspired. This is untrue

"...full knowledge and approval of those persons and Organisations whose duty it is to ... preserve the security of this country."

Knowledge of the articles existed, but did not come from REES. "Approval" is, of course, untrue.

"I cannot give you all the reasons which led me to this conclusion, because they involve security considerations which I am not permitted to disclose."

This again implies official inspiration, which is untrue.

"There were particular reasons why I could not do so (give a warning to the Security Authorities) but I am afraid I cannot give you these reasons, as they effect security."

We know of no reasons.

"But I should say firstly, that I gave the security authorities all the information in my possession immediately after BURGESS's disappearance, and secondly ... I handed over to the security authorities the original manuscript upon which they were based."

Only REES could know whether the first part of this statement is correct. The second part is correct. *(but not the)*

"... the articles in The People were submitted before publication for the approval of the security censorship, operated, I think, by Admiral Thompson's department."

Untrue. The articles were submitted by The People under the D. Notice procedure. The fact that an article is returned for publication in no way implies either approval or the guarantee of the correctness of facts.

"...I should say that I have discussed the articles at considerable length with the security authorities, and that I gave them a copy of my original manuscript on the day on which the first article appeared in The People."

True, but the discussion with the Security Authorities took place subsequent to the publication of the first article and not at REES's instigation. *(at my instigation)*

"That in the course of our discussions I was informed that I should regard them as coming under the provisions of the O.S.A."

True, but these discussions were the exploring of certain possible avenues opened up by the articles, and the discussions as such were indeed covered by the O.S.A., and REES was told at Paddington Hotel of this fact. The fact that the discussions were covered by the O.S.A. does not in any way prevent REES referring to the fact that they took place or in any way cover the articles themselves which are the point at issue.



The memorandum and the comments upon REES's statements should I feel be regarded more as material for dealing with supplementary questions.

2. Is not the short answer to Willink something on the lines of the following:-

*appropriate:* "The People announced that in the near future they were producing a series of articles upon BURGESS. There is an understanding between the Newspaper Proprietors' Association and the authorities that in cases when the former are in doubt as to the propriety of publishing certain material, they can if they wish submit it. The People in due course were invited to submit the articles in question, which were seen by the authorities themselves. The fact that the articles had been seen in no way meant that the authorities either approved of the content of the articles or guaranteed their accuracy.

2. Soon after the disappearance of BURGESS and MACLEAN Mr. REES voluntarily gave a statement to the security authorities. He was not seen again by them until after the first article in The People appeared, and such information as he supplied was then in explanation of the articles already being published. The authorship of these articles had been deduced from internal evidence, and was not confirmed until REES had admitted authorship of the original manuscript at the interview after the first article had been published in The People."



PERSONAL &amp; SECRET

Reference Loose Minute

A/694.

266a

A.

(Copy to A.I.C./Colonel Kearn - on return)

265a

I enclose a letter dated 5 November 1956 from the Rt. Hon. Henry WILLINK, the Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge, addressed to Colonel Kearn. The latter is on leave until 12 November, but we can of course contact him at Leamington should it be necessary.

2. You will see from the letter that Mr. WILLINK will be holding a meeting on 14 November and would like to receive advice from us before then. It looks to me as if this is a matter for L.A. to handle.

3. I suggest that you or L.A. will wish to acknowledge WILLINK's letter at once and perhaps at the same time indicate whether he can expect further advice from us.

G.T.D. Patterson

G.T.D. Patterson.

A.I.  
7.11.56.

Urgent

L.A.

REGIMITE  
Code 18-76  
E.S.Ltd.  
52-2105

WILLINK is a staunch supporter of our position on the delicate issue of such I will gladly tell you. I am most anxious to help him in any way possible

PERSONAL &amp; SECRET



I know Willink, & should like to send some  
 reply today. ~~He~~ It seems to  
 me that someone suitable ought to  
 go & see Willink in Cambridge

A

W. L.  
 7/11

STATION  
 ST. 11  
 11/11



MAGDALENE COLLEGE,  
CAMBRIDGE.

652/AIC/K  
- 6 NOV 1956 265a

FROM THE MASTER.  
TEL. CAMBRIDGE 4356.

5th November 1956

Colonel A. Kearn, O.B.E.

My dear Kearn,

Forgive me for troubling you on a matter in which I think it more than likely that you can help me greatly.

You will not be unaware of the five articles which appeared from March 11 to April 8 in The People about Burgess. It became known before the end of March that 'the facts' had been supplied by Goronwy Rees, Principal of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

There has been a big rumpus in the College. I am Chairman of an independent Committee of Enquiry into "the situation".

In justification of his action Rees has made a number of statements as to his dealings with 'Security'. He received a large fee from The People of course, but seeks to make the case that the re-appearance of B. & M. made it necessary to warn people in this country of the damage they could still do.

Writing to the President of the College Council on May 1 he said:-

"It is my duty, above all others, and incumbent upon me more than any other person, to further and protect the interests of the College. It is also my duty (as of any other citizen) to do all I can to protect the interests of the Country. The method by which this latter was achieved, so far as I could contribute, was not of my choosing but I unequivocally support the end which, as I have reason to know, fully justified the means. ....

I am, on the second aspect of the matter, unable to comment further other than to say that that which I did recently was done advisedly and with the full knowledge and approval of those persons and Organisations whose duty it is to protect and preserve the security of this Country."

In a considered statement, read to the College Council on June 29 he said:-

"It was, in my opinion, right and necessary to make this information public, and it was my sincere belief that it was my



MAGDALENE COLLEGE,  
CAMBRIDGE.

FROM THE MASTER.  
TEL. CAMBRIDGE 4356.

duty to do so, by whatever means I could employ. I cannot give you all the reasons which led me to this conclusion, because they involve security considerations which I am not permitted to disclose. But in general I can say this. Burgess, who had been my friend, was a Soviet agent and in that capacity had done great harm both to the security of this country and to innocent individuals. It took me a very long time to be convinced that he was a Soviet agent and for five years after his disappearance from this country it was possible to have reasonable doubts on this subject. But once he re-appeared in Moscow it was no longer possible to have such doubts. Also it became clear then that he was still capable of causing further damage and harm, and it seemed to me that it was my duty to prevent him from doing so, so far as I could, by giving as emphatic a warning as possible of the damage that he might still do; and I believe now that the warning was an effective one.

It may be asked why I did not give this warning through the most natural channels, that is, the security authorities. There were particular reasons why I could not do so, but I am afraid I cannot give you these reasons, as they effect security. But I should say firstly, that I gave the security authorities all the information in my possession immediately after Burgess's disappearance, and secondly that when the articles appeared I handed over to the security authorities the original manuscript on which they were based."

The Committee had its first meeting on October 17 and on October 24 the following letter was sent to Rees:-

"There is one aspect of the matters before the Committee on which, in the interest of expedition, some progress might be made before the sessions of 2nd-3rd November, and on which I am desired to ask for your help.

In your letter of 1st May to the President, you observed: "That which I did recently was done... with the full knowledge and approval of those persons and Organisations whose duty it is to protect and preserve the security of this country." You added that, presumably on grounds of security, you could not "further particularise upon this aspect of the matter."

In your "second statement to the Council," on 29th June, you stated that your conclusions that you had a duty to make public the information contained in the articles was based on reasons some of which "involve security considerations which I am not permitted to



MAGDALENE COLLEGE,  
CAMBRIDGE.

FROM THE MASTER.  
TEL. CAMBRIDGE 4356.

disclose". Turning to the question why you did not give a warning (about the damage that Burgess still might do) through "the security authorities" themselves, you said: "There were particular reasons why I could not do so, but I am afraid I cannot give you these reasons, as they affect security."

As the Committee are charged with the duty of eliciting the facts of the situation, they wish - so far as may prove practicable - to obtain from the competent quarter the information which you yourself did not feel at liberty to divulge, and also to procure at first hand confirmation of your assessment of the attitude of the security authorities.

They would therefore be grateful if you would let me have confidentially the means of identifying the persons or organisations concerned with security with whom you have been in contact in these connexions, including those who have approved certain of your actions and those who have forbidden you to make certain disclosures. If you should be unwilling to particularise precisely, even in confidence to the Committee, they hope that you will at least say whether those persons or organisations came within the sphere of the Foreign Office, the War Office, the Metropolitan Police, or what other authority; since the Committee can then, on their own responsibility, approach the head of the Department of State concerned and seek his assistance in identifying the particular officer or division and in conveying to them in confidence, so far as he may think proper, the information in question."

Rees replied on October 28:-

"Thank you for your letter of October 24th, with regard to my letter to the President and to my statement to the Council of June 29th.

*Quasi-*  
The words you quote from my letter to the President referred particularly to the fact that the articles in The People were submitted before publication for the approval of the security censorship, operated, I think, by Admiral Thompson's department.

*Barbaric*  
a). With regard to my statement to the Council, I should say, that I have discussed the articles at considerable length with the security authorities, and that I gave them a copy of my original manuscript on the day on which the first article appeared in The People.

b). That in the course of our discussions I was informed that I should regard them as coming under the provisions of the



MAGDALENE COLLEGE,  
CAMBRIDGE.

FROM THE MASTER.  
TEL. CAMBRIDGE 4356.

(? error for 'Aer')

Official Secrets. A.J.

*Correct* Under the circumstances, I feel that I am not at liberty to reveal the organizations concerned. I should, however, be glad to discuss the matter with the Committee.

I am sure I need not say that I give you this information in the greatest confidence. I have not sent copies of my letter to the Committee but I should be grateful if you would bring it to their attention."

The Committee feel bound to investigate Rees' statements so far as possible, and on Saturday I informed my two colleagues that I had a possible avenue. Your name was of course not mentioned, nor would it be if you can help me. They encouraged me to make such enquiry as I could.

The Committee's programme is as follows:- Our next sitting is in London at noon on Wednesday, November 14: during that day we hope to go with Rees into everything connected with the material submitted to The People - motive included. The next sitting is to be on December 14 and 15 at Aberystwyth where we have to receive evidence on "the situation" from a large number of the University College staff. We hope that in these meetings we shall finish the evidence and be able to prepare our report over Christmas and in early January.

*11* You will see how immensely convenient it would be if we could have such facts as can be given us before November 14.

*Yours sincerely  
Henry Wilkins*



S. Form 81/rev. 12.53.

TOP SECRET AND PERSONAL

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,583 Name: REES, M. G. 2642

Original in File No.:\* PF. 605,540 Vol: Serial: 9a Receipt Date: 24.10.56.

Original from: Foreign Office Under Ref.: Dated: 23.10.56.

Extracted on: 26.10.56. by: PMD Section: D.1.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER FROM FOREIGN OFFICE MENTIONING J.H. SPARROW, AND GORONWY REES.

.....

judgments and because he, the Chairman, had heard that SPARROW had been involved with BURGESS. This information evidently came from Goronwy REES.

.....

\* If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner

Dr/B  
20.10.56



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

Daily Herald

Date... 18.10.56

263a

## GUY BURGESS PROBE IN COLLEGE

A HUSH - HUSH inquiry into troubles which have split the University College of Wales, at Aberystwyth, was opened in London yesterday.

No one would say where the inquiry was being held. Everybody concerned had been put under a pledge of secrecy to the President of the University, Sir David Hughes Parry.

The object of the inquiry was dismissed in the one word: "Differences."

But the root of the trouble lies in a disclosure to the Sunday paper *The People*, by the University College's Principal, Mr. Goronwy Rees, of details of the private life of Guy Burgess, once a friend of his.

Of Burgess' peccadilloes, brawls, parties . . . "and how a favourite dish of his was bacon, kippers and porridge all cooked together in a grey mass in an iron saucepan."

There have followed: a secret ballot by the College's council on the Principal's action, unanimous votes of confidence in him by the students, and attacks.

P.A. on Rees.

J.H.W.  
18/10

18/10/56



## Part 1.

262

Section and Officer of origin D.1/CTY Report No. 6082 of 12.9.56  
 Action copy to PF.604,583 Information copy to ..... Typing Date 14.9.56

## REPORT

Goronwy REES

According to Source, REES was paid £6,000 for the series of articles in the "People". REES approached the Editor of the "People" and gave him the book as originally written. After the editorial staff had re-written them in the style in which they ultimately appeared, the Editor of the "People" spoke to REES and asked him if he really wanted the articles published. The Editor would be prepared not to publish them and to publish instead a long series of articles by REES on Welsh matters (paying of course the same price). REES said he had neither the time nor the inclination to write articles on Wales, and that being the case the Editor published.

After the appearance of the first article, REES telephoned or wrote to the Editor saying that he wanted certain alterations made to the other articles. According to source, the Editor replied that REES had had his chance before the articles were published, as originally written by the editorial staff.

## Part II.

## COMMENTS BY SECTION OF ORIGIN

Source is well placed to obtain this information

**WARNING**  
 REFER TO APPROPRIATE  
 OFFICER BEFORE USING

## Part III.

## COMMENTS BY CONSUMER SECTION

(Value, interest, probability, extent to which confirmed by other sources, etc.)



26

COPY of letter from Passport Office dated 3 September, 1956

Received 4 September, 1956.

Original filed in SF.93/2/International, volume 12, serial 706c

Dear Commander Johnstone,

Upon reference to our records I find that at one time your Department was interested in one, Morgan Goronwy REES, born Aberystwyth on November 29th 1909.

For your information, passport No. 337115 issued in his favour in November 1946 and which is valid until November next has been found in a telephone kiosk in London and returned to us by the police.

Together with this was a passport issued to a Mr. Herbert Ian Campbell Wyllie who is described as an Export Executive, born London 20th March 1906 and whose address when the passport was issued in December 1953, is shown as 17 Redcliffe Square, S.W.10.

Two possibilities seem to emerge from the finding of these passports together:-

1. Were they both held irregularly by one person and, if so, who?
2. If the holders are friends, is Wyllie of the same kidney as Rees.

We do not propose to take any action in the matter and merely pass the information to you for what it is worth.

Yours sincerely.

(SIGNED) J.E. Jasper.



NOTE FOR FILE

261a

257b

Attached is a letter which I received from Goronwy REES, as a result of which after consultation, I spoke to Mrs. REES on the 14th August. She then told me that REES was very doubtful about making the trip to Prague, but was anxious to know whether I would help him to assess the risk that he might find in undertaking such a trip. I told Mrs. REES that it was quite impossible for me to assess his risk. She asked me whether I would go to Prague and I told her that I would not for two reasons - (1) It would be contrary to my Office instructions to embark upon such a journey and (2) I regarded it as a somewhat perilous undertaking.

Mrs. REES thought that it was very unlikely that Goronwy would carry out this project but said that at some time or other he hoped to be in London and would undoubtedly communicate with me.

Affairs at the University seem to have settled down and he seems to be in no immediate danger of dismissal.

Submitted for record purposes.

with Mrs. Rees' letter

257b

*W.J. Skardon*  
W.J. Skardon.

30.8.56

F.458

A.4.

/22

*found*  
6.9.56



260b

serial 221a,  
Extract from Note in PF.604,582 dated 17.8.56/ mentioning Goronwy REES.

.....  
*in a letter to BLUNT from Moscow.*

5. On the subject of REES, BURGESS said that POLLOCK thought that REES was off his head. He, BURGESS himself, could not make up his mind but asked BLUNT's advice as to whether he, BLUNT, thought that he, BURGESS, should reveal the "Big Thing" which would finish REES.

CTY  
6. I asked BLUNT what was the "Big Thing". He replied that he had not the faintest idea. I told him that in other correspondence which had been shown to us, i.e. that from POLLOCK, there had been mention of BURGESS being able to ruin REES if he wanted to and might not the two be connected. BLUNT said that BURGESS could no doubt reveal details of REES's private life which would be extremely defamatory. I gathered from BLUNT that REES had in his time slept with most of the leading female novelists in this country from Elizabeth Bowen to Rosamund Lehmann. (BLUNT added that in fact Elizabeth Bowen had written a novel about REES called "The Death of The Heart". I think he meant "To the North", in which 'Mark' has been said to be a portrait of REES.) He felt, however, that BURGESS could not be referring to this as no publication in this country would publish anything on those lines owing to the laws of libel.

7. The subject of REES having been raised, I said that I was still puzzled over the discrepancy between BLUNT's and REES's testimony on two matters. BLUNT thought that I was referring to the conversation in the park but I said that this might well have been a genuine misunderstanding and I was referring to two other discrepancies, the outstanding one being REES's statement that BLUNT had tried to dissuade him, REES, from coming to see Captain Liddell. There was a complete conflict there and as far as I could see either BLUNT was a liar or REES was. I said that, thinking with my heart rather than my head, I preferred to believe that the liar was REES. BLUNT then said, after a short pause, that there was a third possibility. He remembered that some two or three weeks after the publication of the news of the disappearance of BURGESS and MACLEAN he had been told of a conversation at a dinner party at which were present John Strachey and other persons who had at one time been Communists. At it the question of who would go next was mooted and his name was put next on the list. This had got to his ears (possibly I think from Victor ROTHSCHILD) and also to the ears of REES and the latter had said that he felt there must be a plot against BLUNT and that BLUNT should take the strongest possible action. BLUNT said that at that time he was practically at the end of his tether and his own inclination was to let the whole thing slide.

He did say, however, that he mentioned the matter to Captain Liddell. He thought that it was possible that REES had muddled up this conversation with the conversation at Sonning before their first interview with Captain Liddell and thus produced the result as known to us from REES's statement.

8. BLUNT had heard from friends (unspecified) the story put about by REES that BLUNT had tried to dissuade him from coming to see the Security Service after BURGESS's flight. He was wondering whether these statements in conjunction with the articles in "The People" would give him a case against REES for libel or slander. I said that I was not qualified to give an opinion and BLUNT said that in any case he would not bring an action and anyway he would get no damages as he understood that the fee paid for the articles had been swallowed up by REES' overdraft.

9. He could throw no light upon the second discrepancy, i.e. the statement that he and BURGESS used occasionally to go to the East End to eat Chinese food and thought that this was a genuine lapse of memory by REES and anyway not important. (I must confess I am inclined to agree, especially having regard to the facts known to me that BLUNT is allergic to Chinese food.)



S. Form 338

**SECRET**

260a

NAME: REES

T.C. No.: 3003

Tel. No.: Aberystwyth 7083

Date: 14.8.56.

Responsible Section: D.1.a.



Incoming call to GORONWY from OWEN (HUGHES) to change their rendez-vous tomorrow. GORONWY said he was sorry but some friends had come to stay and so he could not come. Jenny could not come to the dance on Friday either.

09.49.

Incoming call to Mrs. REES from SKARDON in reply to a letter he had received from GORONWY. He had said he would be in London this week. Mrs. REES told him that GORONWY had had to cancel it at the last minute - he could not get a visa before 6th September. In any case, he had not wanted to go (to Czechoslovakia) without asking SKARDON's opinion on the matter. (SKARDON's next few sentences were inaudible; in fact, most of his side of the conversation was throughout the call. MARGY had difficulty in hearing him also.) Mrs. REES asked if he would go if it was his decision. SKARDON replied, no, he would not go at all and, in fact, he would be forbidden to go. Mrs. REES said that was what GORONWY wanted to know - he did not want to do anything silly. He had a large family to support and they were offering him a large sum of money to go. SKARDON could not assess what risk he would be taking if he went. Mrs REES thought GORONWY should call it off; she was not keen on the idea anyway. She did not know why - it was just because they had 5 children. SKARDON remarked that that was a very good reason. Mrs. REES thought it silly even to take a one per cent risk under those circumstances. SKARDON asked how things were. He had gathered from GORONWY's letter that they were settling down. Mrs. REES said it had developed into a sort of age old Welsh war but she thought all was well now. The matter of the articles really just gave an excuse for an attack. GORONWY was rather modern in his views about some things. She thanked SKARDON for telephoning - it was very kind of him. She asked if he wanted to see GORONWY. SKARDON said not really but if he was going to be in town, he might just get into touch with him. Mrs. REES thought he might come up during the next fortnight - she would ask him to write saying when and where he could be reached.

11.26.

LINE SUSPENDED INDEFINITELY.

JW.

To main file.  
JW  
15/8



SECRET

259a

PF. 604,583/D1A/DHW

14 August, 1956.

Dear Harlow,

Reference our telephone conversation of 13 August, I should be grateful if you could suspend the operation of H.O.W. No. 12058 on Goronwy REES. It was operating on the following addresses:-

Plas Penglais,  
Aberystwyth,  
Cardiganshire.

and c/o The University College of Wales,  
Aberystwyth.

I am retaining the H.O.W.

Yours sincerely,

D.H.W.

D.H. Whyte.

G.A. Harlow, Esq.,  
G.P.O.

/PMD

SECRET



**SECRET**

258a

Major A. E. DENMAN, M.B.E.,  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPT., (*through A.2.A.*)  
G.P.O.

Box 500,  
Parliament Street B.O.,  
London, S.W.1.

\* Suspend  
Please  
Re-impose

T.C. No.: 3003

\* { Temporarily  
Indefinitely  
Permanently (H.O.W. being retained) } from 14.8.56 to .....  
(if known)

Date 13.8.56 Section D.1.A. Signature D.H. Whyte.

Copy to A.2.A.  
Copy to file No.: PT. 604, 583

(\* Delete as necessary)  
(Use this Form for both carbon copies).

S. Form 306 (rev. 10.52).





W. G. Stander Esq  
Room 055  
War Office  
Whitehall  
London S.W.1.

Personal



All Souls College,  
Oxford.

PLAS PENGLAIS  
ABERYSTWYTH  
Tel. 7083

9. VIII. 56

Dear Mr. Stender

I am sorry to trouble you but I have been asked by three periodicals jointly (Encounter, Der Monat, Poesies, ) to go to Czechoslovakia for them to write an article on the present situation there. I am intending to go on Thursday of next week; but I wonder if I may ask your personal opinion whether there would be any risks involved in my going. I am intending to be there, chiefly in Prague, for two weeks.

In any case, I thought you might like to know I was going, in case anyone might possibly think another disappearance was a hand!

You were quite right that I slipped me into trouble; only I didn't realize quite how much. When Communists & Nationalists combine forces, there is practically no limit to what they can do.

I shall be in London from Monday to Thursday of next week.

Yours ever

Gordon Rees.



COPY.

DIA/DHW.

To see a p.a. in Rees.

D. (Mr . J. C. Robertson).

As spoken. I feel that I ought to speak on the telephone to Rees and then merely say that I simply cannot assess the risk he may face in travelling to and staying in Prague.

A.4.  
10.8.56.

(signed) W.J. Skardon.

A.4/WJS.

I agree.

I have mentioned this to L.A.

D.  
13.8.56.

(signed) J.C.Robertson.

See also 261a.



COPY.

Plas Penglais,  
Aberystwyth,  
Tel: 7083.

9.VIII.56.

Dear Mr. Skarden,

I am sorry to trouble you but I have been asked by three periodicals jointly (Encounter, Der Monat, Puevves (?),) to go to Czechoslovakia for them to write an article on the present situation there. I am intending to go on Thursday of next week; but I wonder if I may ask your personal opinion whether there would be any risk involved in my going. I am intending to be there, chiefly in Prague, for two weeks.

In any case, I thought you might like to know I was going, in case anyone might possibly think another disappearance was on hand!

You were quite right that I should run into trouble; only I didn't realise quite how much. When Communists and Nonconformists combine forces, there is practically no limit to what they can do.

I shall be in London from Monday to Thursday of next week.

Yours ever,

(signed) Goronwy Rees.

Received 10.8.56.



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

Di  
25/7

Date... 28 7 56

Pg Supp  
Daily Express

## College chief faces probe

An inquiry *will* be held into the conduct of Mr. Goronwy Rees, Principal of University College, Aberystwyth, who wrote a series of newspaper articles about his former friend, traitor Guy Burgess.

The decision to hold the inquiry was taken yesterday by the council of the college. This reversed its decision, only three weeks ago, to take no action.



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

Date.....28 7 56

*The Times*

## WELSH COLLEGE INQUIRY

### RIFT AMONG COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

ABERYSTWYTH, JULY 27

At the request of the Principal, Mr. Goronwy Rees, the council of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, have approved the appointment of an independent committee of inquiry to consider the situation in the college and such matters as may be raised by the President, Sir David Hughes Parry, and the Principal.

A brief statement to this effect was issued to-day after the college council had met in private for nearly four hours.

The meeting was specially convened by the president following an obvious rift among the council members and resignations received from two members, Sir Ifan ab Owen Edwards and the college treasurer, Mr. J. Alban Davies. There are unconfirmed reports of other resignations.

The resignations followed a meeting of the council some weeks ago, when it was officially reported that "a frank exchange of views" had taken place on the question of newspaper articles on the life of Burgess and Maclean, the Foreign Office diplomats who went to Russia, information for which was supplied by the college principal, who was at one time an acquaintance of Burgess. The council had then decided that no action was necessary and declared that the matter was closed.

#### SECRET BALLOT

At that meeting a proposal to set up a committee of inquiry was rejected by a majority vote in a secret ballot, and it is believed that the resignations have emanated from the fact that a special committee was not set up.

Some weeks before that meeting a mass meeting of students decided by an overwhelming majority that they were in support of the principal and viewed with alarm any action that might be taken to seek his resignation.

Asked after to-day's meeting who would set up the independent committee and when, the president said: "My lips are sealed" and that all the members of the council had pledged themselves to secrecy as to what had taken place at the meeting.

*Pa Rees.*



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

Date... 25 7 56

*The Times**Pa Rees***APPEAL TO STOP  
RESIGNATIONS****NEW MOVE IN WELSH  
COLLEGE DISPUTE**FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT  
CARDIFF, JULY 24

An appeal to members of the council of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, seriously to reconsider their reported decision to resign was made in a public statement by Mr. T. Mervyn Jones, a member appointed by Cambridge University in 1949, here to-day.

Nearly a month ago the council decided not to institute an inquiry into the action of the principal of the college, Mr. Goronwy Rees, in publishing, in a Sunday newspaper, articles relating to Guy Burgess, the former diplomatist. Last week Professor Sir David Hughes Parry, Q.C., president of the council, said a further meeting of the council had been convened for Friday next so that resignations could be reported and to consider consequential action.

In his statement Mr. Mervyn Jones said: "I make it with very great regret, for so far I have honoured the request of our president, made to us all, in the interest of

the college, to refrain from making Press statements.

Nevertheless, such statements have been made by the treasurer and Sir Ifan Edwards, to announce their protest resignations, and last week by the president himself to announce other undisclosed resignations and to summon a special council meeting.

"It will be quite impossible to conduct the affairs of this council or any other public body if, after the usual proper processes of proposal, discussion, and vote, those who disagree with the result of that vote are to threaten to resign and to withdraw their support from the college. Why, after a decision has been made, as it was on June 29, should we be called together again because a few of our number are threatening to resign? Obviously we cannot be asked to alter that decision. It would be highly improper and certainly out of order.

"The result of the secret ballot was that the majority supported the view that no action was required and that the matter should be regarded as closed.

"I implore those of my colleagues who may intend to resign seriously to reconsider their decision."



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

Date..... 25 7 56

*Daily Telegraph*

## COLLEGE RIFT OVER BURGESS ARTICLES

### 4 RESIGNATIONS

DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTER

The controversy over the action of Mr. Goronwy Rees, 46, Principal of Aberystwyth University College, in supplying information for articles on Burgess and Maclean, has split the College Council. Two bitterly opposed factions have emerged.

Details of the split were revealed last night. In a statement, Mr. T. Mervyn Jones, member of the Council, referred to members who were contemplating resignation because the Council on June 29 decided to take no further action.

Mr. Jones urged them to reconsider their decisions. He said: "It will be impossible to conduct the affairs of the council if after a proper vote those who disagree are to threaten to resign and withdraw support from the college."

The statement has been issued three days before what Mr. Jones called a "special, unusual and inconvenient" meeting of the council. He said some officers of the council and the Principal were not consulted about it.

### MEETING ON FRIDAY

The special meetings of the council and court are to be held on Friday to consider the resignations of Sir Ifan ab Owen Edwards, president of the Welsh League of Youth; Mr. Jenkin Alban Davies, the college treasurer, and two unnamed members.

Articles on Burgess and Maclean were published this year in a Sunday newspaper alleging that the two were not only Communist agents, but sexual perverts, and that one of Burgess's "boon sexual companions" was a Mr. X, a Comintern agent prominent in British life.

The articles, as exclusively revealed in THE DAILY TELEGRAPH on March 29, were based on information supplied by Mr. Rees. He has said he wanted to expose Burgess as a dangerous man.

Mr. Jones moved the motion which became the Council's "no further action" decision. He assumes those not prepared to accept the decision have written to the president, Sir David Parry, "Because of what they have told him and his own personal support of their minority views, he is calling this special meeting," Mr. Jones states.

No member had submitted evidence or suggestion of conduct which might be considered improper on the part of the Principal. There was nothing any inquiry could add to facts already before the Council.





# WESTERN MAIL

National Daily of Wales



A Kemsley Newspaper

THURSDAY JULY 19, 1956.

Ext for Rees  
Mean  
CY

**Governors called to special meeting**

## COLLEGE ROW: NEW MOVE

### Hint of further resignations

WESTERN MAIL REPORTER

**L**ATEST step in the controversy centred on the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, was taken yesterday when letters were sent out convening a special meeting of the Council and Court of Governors for Friday of next week.

This is a sequel to the Council's meeting nearly three weeks ago when the members decided by a small majority not to institute an inquiry into actions by the college principal, Mr. Goronwy Rees. After that meeting certain members of the council resigned.

Sir David Hughes Parry, president of the Council, told me yesterday: "The Council is being convened so that the resignations can be reported and to consider consequential action."

Two prominent members of the Council, Mr. Jenkin Alban-Davies, treasurer of the college, and Sir Ifan ab Owen Edwards, founder-president of Urdd Gobaith Cymru, have announced their resignations. Two other members are understood to have submitted their resignations also. Their names will be made known at the special meeting.

Three weeks ago statements were made to the Council by Sir David and by Mr. Rees concerning facts supplied by the principal to a Sunday newspaper on which articles relating to Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean were based.

Mr. Alban-Davies was reported to have resigned because he "strongly disapproved the manner in which the Council had arrived at its decision."

The remaining 60 members of the Council will receive notices of the special meeting to-day.



PRINCIPAL REES in Bangor yesterday. He is leading forward distinguished architect Frank Lloyd Wright to receive an honorary degree. Other photographs and story of the ceremony on Page Seven.



D1

FROM THE PRESS SECTION.*Daily Telegraph* Date..... 3.7.56

254A

**2 QUIT COLLEGE  
COUNCIL****INQUIRY DEMAND****Daily Telegraph Reporter**

Two members of the Council of Aberystwyth University College have resigned. Their reason is the Council's decision not to set up a committee of inquiry into the action of Mr. Goronwy Rees, the Principal, in supplying information for a series of Sunday newspaper articles on Burgess and Maclean.

The resigned members are Sir Ifan ab Owen Edwards, president of the 50,000-strong Welsh League of Youth and a former member of the staff of the college, and Mr. Jenkin Alban Davies, a former High Sheriff of Cardiganshire and Treasurer of the college. He has resigned that post also.

Sir Ifan said yesterday: "I have resigned with regret because of the decision of the College Council not to set up a special committee to inquire into the whole matter."

Mr. Alban Davies, whose father's gifts to the college total over £80,000, said he disagreed with the manner in which the matter had been dealt with. The Council decided against a committee of inquiry by a small majority.

**"Lot of Discontent"**

Sir David Parry, President of the college, said last night that he felt unable to comment on the resignations. He explained: "I was in the chair at the meeting and I have to be judicial, but I am quite certain there is a lot of discontent."

*p.c. Rees*



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

*Manchester*  
*Guardian*

Date.....*3.7.56*

*253A*

BURGESS-MACLEAN  
ARTICLES

University Resignations

From our Correspondent

Two members of the council and of the court of governors of University College, Aberystwyth, have resigned following a discussion by the council of newspaper articles on Burgess and MacLean, for which the Principal of the college, Mr Goronwy Rees, supplied information. The two who have resigned are Sir Ifan ab Owen Edwards, president of the Welsh League of Youth and a former lecturer in the education department of the college, and Mr Jenkin Alban-Davies, a former high sheriff of Cardiganshire, who has also resigned as Treasurer of the college. The council, after hearing statements by the Principal and the President, Sir David Hughes Parry, decided that no action was necessary.

Among the proposals made at the meeting on Friday was one urging that a special committee should be set up to inquire into the case, but this was defeated by a small majority and a brief press statement issued afterwards said: "The matter is now closed."

Sir Ian said yesterday that he had severed his long association with the college "because of the manner in which the decision of the council was arrived at." Mr Alban-Davies has given the same reason for his resignation.

*pr Rees*



July 3rd. 1956

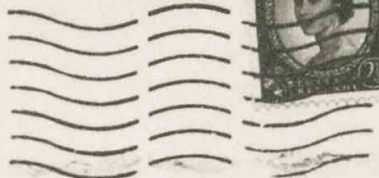
SECRET

H

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0-0-2-2

252A



Goronwy Rees, Esq.,  
Plas Penglais,  
Aberystwyth,  
N. Wales.

PEARNS, POLLINGER & HIGHAM, Ltd.

Telephone: COVENT GARDEN (431)  
Telegrams: HIPOL, LESQUARE,  
LONDON.  
Cables: HIPOL, LONDON.

39-40, BEDFORD STREET, STRAND,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

DIRECTORS:  
David Higham  
Laurence Pollinger } Managing  
Jean Leroy. Gerald Pollinger  
Monica Preston. Paul Scott.

2nd July 1956

Goronwy Rees, Esq.,  
Plas Penglais,  
Aberystwyth,  
Wales.

Dear Rees,

I was glad to see that the  
storm has apparently passed. I  
expect you are rather relieved, all  
things considered. May I now hear  
from you in answer to mine of 25th  
April and have your news in general?  
I look forward to that.

Yours,

*David Higham*

*Pa Rees*

DEH/MA

Although every reasonable care is taken of MS. while in our possession we can accept no  
responsibility for any loss or damage thereto.

3-JUL-1956



*Manchester Guardian**DIA*FROM THE PRESS SECTION.Date...*30.6.56**P. Rees***ARTICLES ON BURGESS  
AND MACLEAN****No Action by College Council**

After a private meeting yesterday of the Council of Aberystwyth University College, a press statement was issued which said that the President of the college, Sir David Hughes Parry, and the Principal, Mr Goronwy Rees, had made statements concerning a series of Sunday newspaper articles on Burgess and Maclean, information for which was supplied by Mr Rees. He was at one time a friend of Burgess. The statement continued: "After a frank exchange of views, the council has decided that no action is required. The matter is now closed."

Because of rumours that there was an undercover movement to seek the resignation of the Principal, a meeting of students at Aberystwyth last night passed by a large majority a resolution supporting Mr Rees and protesting in strong terms against any action that might be taken to obtain his resignation.



*Daily Telegraph*FROM THE PRESS SECTION.*DIA**250A*Date.....*30.6.56**Pa Rees*

## NO ACTION OVER PRINCIPAL

### BURGESS ARTICLES

**Daily Telegraph Reporter**

Mr. Goronwy Rees, principal of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, who supplied information on which was based a series of articles on Burgess and MacLean in a Sunday newspaper, made a statement on the matter at a private meeting of the college council at Aberystwyth yesterday.

The president of the college, Sir David Hughes Parry, also made a statement. Members of the Press, who were kept isolated in another part of the building, were afterwards officially informed that there had been "a frank exchange of views and that the council had decided no action was required."

The Press statement, made by the college registrar, Mr. Maelgwyn Davies, ended: "The matter is now closed."



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

Date.....

*The Times*

## STUDENTS' SUPPORT FOR PRINCIPAL

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

ABERYSTWYTH, JUNE 20

Students of Aberystwyth University College of Wales, meeting to-day in the college hall to discuss the position of their principal, Mr. Goronwy Rees, voted in favour of a resolution "that the student body of the college would view with extreme concern and alarm any action that would result in the dismissal or resignation of the principal." Later, a statement signed by the president of the students' union, Mr. Brian Heath, was issued, which said that the resolution was carried by an overwhelming majority. There were 400 votes approving it and only eight against.

Some students have feared that Mr. Rees might be asked to resign because of articles about Guy Burgess, the former diplomatist, which were published in a newspaper. Mr. Rees has stated that he did not write the articles but merely supplied information used in them.

*Pa Rees*



Reference.....

247A

NOTE.

Having previously discussed the papers at serial 246a with the D.G., I saw Sir Frank Newsam about them this morning. I said that the Security Service agreed with the Lord President's view that any suggestion of Ministerial intervention in the matter of REES' position in the University College of Wales might be most embarrassing. If it became public, as it well might, it could easily be represented as an attempt by the Government to punish, perhaps to silence, a man whose only fault had been to show that there were still bad hats and security risks in high places. This suggestion could be used to reinforce the line adopted by much of the Press about the "great cover-up" in the B. and M. case. Our advice therefore was that the Lord President should be recommended to give Lady Davies no information about REES' background or reputation.

Newsam accepted this view and drafted a minute in that sense to the Home Secretary.

*G.R. Mitchell*

G.R. Mitchell.

D.D.G.  
21.6.56.

REGIMITE

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Code 18-76

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*216.*



**SECRET**

246b

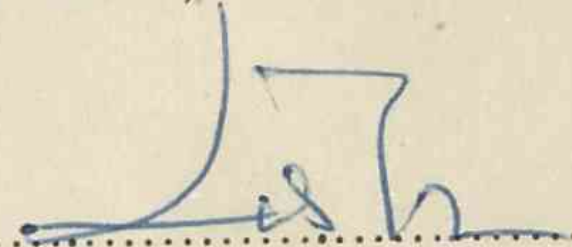
Major A. E. DENMAN, M.B.E.,  
 TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPT., (*through A.2.A.*)  
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S. Form 306 (rev. 10.52).



Home Office,  
Whitehall,

S.W.1

20th June, 1956.

20 JUN 1956

Dear Hollis,

Newsam will be in the Office  
between 9.30 and 10.30 tomorrow  
morning, and will be seeing Mitchell  
at 10 o'clock. It occurs to me that  
... if it were possible to deal with the  
attached letter in time Mitchell  
might perhaps let Newsam have your  
views at their meeting.

Yours sincerely,

L. P. each

R. H. Hollis, Esq., C.B.





246A  
Home Office,  
Whitehall, S.W.1.

20th June, 1956.

20 JUN 1956

SECRET.

Dear Hollis,

... Sir Frank Newsam, who has just left London, has asked me to send you the enclosed papers on which he had correspondence with White about Goronwy Rees, together with the letter of 19th June to the Home Secretary from Lord Salisbury.

Sir Frank will be grateful for your observations on the reply which the Home Secretary might send to Lord Salisbury, particularly with regard to the question which Lady Davies asks in the last paragraph but one of her letter.

You will see that Lord Salisbury asks for a very early reply, and Sir Frank would like to submit a draft to the Home Secretary tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,

D. H. P.  
Rees

R. H. Hollis, Esq., C.B.

20/6



Sir F. Newsam.

Could you please advise  
S. of S. how he should reply  
to the Lord President on this?

R.R.P(ittam).  
19.6.56.



COPY.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Privy Council Office,

Whitehall, S.W.

19th June 1956.

My dear Gwilym,

I have been rather embarrassed by receiving the enclosed copy letter from Lady Davies about the Principal of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, Mr. Goronwy Rees.

Lady Davies is one of the three persons appointed by the Lord President to the Court and Council of the College - the others are Sir H. Idris Bell and Mr. Iwan Morgan, and the present appointment of all three runs till September 1958. I do not, however, regard them in any sense as my representatives or delegates, and that is what makes Lady Davies' request rather embarrassing.

Furthermore, I should have thought that any suggestion that Ministers had intervened in this matter, however slight the intervention, might be construed as a further attempt to hush up a very awkward episode. I am confirmed in the view that it is very necessary to walk delicately in this affair by the attached extract from this morning's "Daily Express".

In the circumstances, I would be most grateful for your advice, both on the security aspect, and from the Welsh point of view also. Do you think there is anything that can be usefully said to Lady Davies? (I think the case demands a fairly quick answer, and I would be grateful if you would be good enough to treat it on that basis).

Yours ever,

(Sgd) Salisbury.

Major the Rt.Hon.Gwilym Lloyd-George, M.P.



COPY.

Llwynderw, Llandinam,  
Montgomeryshire.  
Caersws 260.

16th June 1956.

Dear Lord Salisbury,

I hope you will forgive my writing to you personally. I am one of your nominees on the Council of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. There is a problem concerning the Principal, Mr. Goronwy Rees, on which I would be very grateful for your advice and guidance.

In April last articles appeared in the Liverpool Post and the Western Mail, one of which I enclose. It has also appeared in the Press that the Principal has said he will not resign.

There was some opposition to this appointment three years ago, apparently from the Welsh Nationalist angle. It was also said that Mr. Rees' scholarship was of insufficiently high standing. He was appointed by a majority vote, mainly on the recommendation of a Committee, as I don't think many people knew much of Mr. Rees since his early days.

The Committee consisted of the President, Dr. Thomas Jones, C.H., a Vice-President, Sir George Fossett Roberts, and the then Treasurer, Mr. Ivor Evans. The President and Vice-President have since died.

An ordinary meeting of the Council is called for June 29th when presumably this matter of confidence or otherwise in the Principal, will be discussed. I would be very grateful if you would let me know what the Principal's reputation has really been in the past. I would not withhold that information from the Council, but would of course treat the information as confidential at all other times.

I regret having to bother you on this matter, but know of no other source from which to get such information, which I consider as essential in considering a matter of this sort.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) Eldrydd Davies.



Correspondence copied from H.O. file on  
 (See also serials 187A 190A,  
 191A, 192A,  
 195A).  
 Rees (20.6.56).

245A

COPY.

Private and Confidential.

From

THE VICE CHANCELLOR,  
 THE UNIVERSITY,  
 READING.

19th April 1956.

My dear Newsam,

Thank you very much for your letter of yesterday and for letting me see a copy of your final letter to Rees. It seems to me that this is much the best solution, for the reasons which I mentioned in my first letter to you and in our subsequent conversation; and I am glad that he has made this move.

At the next meeting of the Committee I will simply say that he has resigned, and I will certainly honour your assurances to him that no reasons will be given - unless, of course, it should by then have happened that the Home Secretary has had to give reasons in Parliament.

I am very sorry that there has been this awkward and embarrassing little problem. It may be that we have not yet heard the end of it. But I am most grateful to you for what you have done, and, if it is not impertinent of me to say so, to the Home Secretary as well.

Yours sincerely,

J.F. WOLFENDEN.

Sir Frank Newsam, K.C.B., K.B.E.,  
 Home Office.

Newsam  
 25/6.



COPY.

HOME OFFICE,

WHITEHALL.

18th April 1956.

Dear Mr. Goronwy Rees,

I have laid before the Home Secretary your letter of the 12th instant.

The Home Secretary directs me to say that he accepts your letter as a formal notice of resignation from the Departmental Committee on Homosexual Offences and Prostitution. He has also decided, in view of the special request made in your letter, that, for the present at least, no public announcement of your resignation will be made by the Home Office. You will of course appreciate that your resignation may have to be announced should the question be raised with the Home Secretary in Parliament or elsewhere.

I have therefore written to the Chairman of the Committee to inform him of your resignation and have asked him, in conveying this to the other members of the Committee, to say that no public announcement is being made of your resignation and to give no reasons for it.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) F.A. NEWSAM.

Goronwy Rees Esq.



COPY.

HOME OFFICE,  
WHITEHALL.

18th April 1956.

My dear Wolfenden,

I promised to write to you as soon as I could about Goronwy Rees' position on the Departmental Committee on Homosexual Offences and Prostitution.

At the direction of the Home Secretary I wrote to Rees to ask if there were any foundation for the accounts in the Press that he was responsible for the articles about Burgess, and to point out the embarrassment which would be caused if in fact he was responsible for the articles and nevertheless signed the report which in due course will be submitted to the Home Secretary by the Committee. Rees has replied that he realises the embarrassment which might be caused and he assumes that the Home Secretary would wish him to retire from the Committee; he has asked that no public announcement of his resignation should be made or at least that any announcement should be postponed as long as possible. He makes this plea on account of the difficulties which will be caused to his College rather than to him if an announcement were made at present.

I have written to Rees today and I enclose a copy of my letter to him for your information.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) F.A. NEWSAM.

J.F. Wolfenden Esq., C.B.E.



COPY.

PLAS PENGLAIS

ABERYSTWYTH.

TEL.7083

12. iv. 56.

Dear Sir Frank,

Thank you for your letter of April 10th. I am not the author of the articles to which you refer, but I am responsible for the material on which they were based.

I fully realize the embarrassment which this may cause the Home Secretary, and I assume therefore that he would wish me to retire from the Committee. I should do this with great regret, as I have been greatly interested in the proceedings, and believe that its report will be a very valuable one.

I should be grateful however if a public announcement of my resignation could be avoided, or, if this is not possible, if it could be postponed until as late a date as possible. I say this because of the great difficulties which would be caused to my College, rather than to myself, if such an announcement were to be made at the present moment.

I should be grateful also if you would convey to the Home Secretary my most sincere apologies for embarrassing him in this way.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) Goronwy REES.

S. of S.

I think we should treat this letter as Mr. Rees resignation. There is no need for us to make it public!

F.A.N. 12/3.



COPY.

HOME OFFICE

WHITEHALL.

10th April 1956.

The attention of the Home Secretary has been called to an article by Peterborough in the 'Daily Telegraph' of the 29th March in which it is alleged that you are the author of a series of articles published in the "People" which included statements to the effect that the writer of the articles was one of Burgess' closest friends and was fully aware of Burgess' sexual irregularities. The Secretary of State also observes that in an article published in the "Western Mail" on the 31st March you are reported to have admitted that "the articles were based on facts supplied by me".

The Home Secretary would be glad if you would be good enough to inform him what if any foundation there is for these accounts. He feels sure that you will realise what embarrassment would be caused if in fact you are responsible for the articles published in the "People" and you nevertheless signed a Report which in due course the Departmental Committee on Homosexual Offences and Prostitution will be submitting to him.

(signed) F.A. NEWSAM.

Goronwy Rees Esq.



DAILY EXPRESS.19th June 1956.

244A

# 'I WON'T RESIGN'— COLLEGE CHIEF

Express Staff Reporter

**T**HE nine chiefs of 1,200 university students met in secret yesterday, then posted up a notice saying that the student body would view with "extreme concern and alarm" any move to sack the principal.

And tomorrow the students of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, will be asked "to protect the principal from the small band of diehards who want him sacked."

They believe that their principal, 46-year-old Goronwy Rees, will be asked to resign because he wrote newspaper articles about his friendship with runaway diplomat Guy Burgess.

The college president, Sir David Hughes Parry, aged 62, has announced he will make a statement about the principal's position when the college council meets in a fortnight.

## Ku-Klux-Klan

"We have good reason to believe there are people, among them members of the staff—we call them the Ku-Klux-Klan—who want to get him out," said a student yesterday.

"We know they have already begun their dirty work under cover."

Last night Mr. Rees said: "The students like me. I get along with them fine. They're a grand bunch. I will not resign."

He is a former lieutenant-colonel in Army Intelligence, and has said of Guy Burgess: "He is a dangerous man capable of blackmailing Foreign Office officials."

He was appointed to his £60 a week job three years ago, after a unanimous recommendation by the selection committee. It will require a two-thirds majority vote by the 39-man college council to demand his resignation.



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

Date... 18 6 56

Daily Express

## Students back friend of Burgess

A COLLEGE principal who wrote newspaper articles about his long friendship with Guy Burgess — the runaway diplomat—is to be asked to resign, his students believe.

They are starting a campaign to defend the principal—46-year-old Goronwy Rees, of University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

A spokesman of the 1,200-strong Students' Union said yesterday: "Tomorrow our executive is meeting to discuss what action to take if he is asked to resign."

Everything will come to a head in a fortnight, when Sir David Hughes Parry, 62-year-old president of the college, make a statement on the principal's position at a meeting of the college council.

Student leaders believe that Principal Rees—father of five; author of three novels—will be asked to resign his £60-a-week post after the council meeting.

The articles about Burgess appeared last spring. Principal Rees said he wrote them to expose Burgess "as the dangerous man he is."

Pa REES



Copy: PF.604583 (REES)

243A

PF.604529/D.1.

PF.703

11 June, 1956.

SECRET

PERSONAL

Dear

Please refer to your letter dated 22 May, 1956. I attach hereto copies of the series of articles upon Guy BURGESS which appeared anonymously in "The People" but were in fact based upon a text supplied by Geronwy REES.

2. We have in fact got here a copy of the original manuscript as written by REES. He gave it to us on the strict understanding that we would not circulate it elsewhere. In fact we have given copies to the Foreign Office and [redacted] as they were obviously concerned.

3. I am not particularly conscience stricken about breaking faith with REES especially if there is good cause so to do, as there was with the Foreign Office [redacted]. My conscience is, however, slightly queasy in so doing in respect of A.S.I.O. who are not directly concerned. If you feel that the lack of the original manuscript will in any way impair our relations with A.S.I.O. I will of course send you the original but I must say I do not quite see how it will assist them.

4. Perhaps you would let me have your views.

Yours

Courtenay Young.

G.H. Leggett, Esq.,  
S.L.O. Australia.

Enclosures 5.



239a.  
240a.  
240b.  
241a.

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
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UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
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ACT 1958



S. Form 81/rev. 12.53

## EXTRACT

(51685) WT63115 GP.677

Extract for File No.: P.F. 604,583 e.s. Name: REES, M.G. 238b  
 Original in File No.: P.F. 604,592. POLLOCK. Vol.: \_\_\_\_\_ Serial: 51a. Receipt Date: 29.5.56.  
 Original from: Int. letter. Under Ref.: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: 20.5.56.  
 Extracted on: 14.9.56. by: DD. Section: R.5.

Extract from int. letter from Guy BURGESS, Poste Restante, Main Post Office, Moscow, U.S.S.R., to Peter POLLOCK Esq., Sharlowes Farm, Flaunden, Hemel Hempstead, Herts., ment. Geronwy REES.

...

I must admit I was surprised, staggered in fact; in one case - Geronwy. I still can't believe it was only money (just as you can't - tho' others do). Madness, you say. Certainly, in the sense it will do him a great deal of harm in the eyes

P.T.O.



of the people in England whose opinion of him he cares  
 about while on the other hand doing me no harm  
 at all & possibly even a little good. I haven't even  
 read all his articles as the People is not widely  
 circulated here & I didn't make a special request <sup>to get it</sup>.  
 However my mother wants to send them. Thank  
 you very much for writing to protest to him. ~~Many~~  
 Others have also done so. According to my mother  
~~these~~ these include John Sharrow even! But perhaps  
 that's for your sake rather than mine. Do you  
 see him when you visit ~~Robertson~~ <sup>? to get</sup> Robertson in  
 Oxford? My own impression is that we don't  
know the explanation of his <sup>6's</sup> behaviour - perhaps  
 some of it is due to injured vanity, perhaps some  
 to class reasons, he's not a gent., but I myself  
 suspect there may have been some outside  
 pressure we don't know about. At any rate I'm  
 giving him the benefit of that doubt. Till I hear  
 more certainly than I yet have. I must admit  
 that most people <sup>including an O.P. who writes</sup> seem to think his merely behaved  
 & simply vilely for reasons of personal character.  
 Let me know anything you hear. One of his  
 own <sup>students</sup> pupils (who of course I never knew) even  
 took the trouble to write to me (reported his letter  
 on holiday abroad for safety!) and said that  
 "as far as he could make out", I "might have  
 done the right but Principal Rees has certainly  
 done the wrong thing." He then said there was

4 5596 D



④ much feeling against Gronow in the University for  
 various reasons - including that he shld. have even  
 have been a friend of someone he himself described  
 as he had described me. - The student added that  
 if I liked to give him my views & news <sup>about</sup> ~~about~~  
<sup>from my knowledge</sup> Rees, and if they were what he thought, then  
~~that~~ he would, & could, get Rees the sack.  
 Of course I shan't answer or do this. But we  
 can't help feeling secretly glad to know we  
 could - & has refrained. For one thing I'm  
 not certain why he did it. For another there's his  
 wife & children who are dears, & his no money,  
 except his salary. More than enough of that subject



238a.

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